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*Greene*

COLONEL CHRISTOPHER GREENE.

OF THE RHODE ISLAND BRIGADE.

Born 1734. Died May 15<sup>th</sup> 1781.

Rhode Island (Colony)

# RECORDS

OF THE

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

AND

## PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

IN

## NEW ENGLAND.



PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

EDITED BY

JOHN RUSSELL BARTLETT,  
SECRETARY OF STATE.

VOL. IX.

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1780 TO 1783.

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1864.

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## P R E F A C E.

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THE present volume of the Colonial Records comprises four years of the history of Rhode Island, commencing with the January session, 1780, and closing with the December session, 1783, in which year the war of the Revolution terminated. The annals of the state during this period, almost wholly appertain to the great struggle then going on to secure our independence, as the raising of troops by means of bounties, the furnishing of supplies for the army, and the means for carrying on the war. In addition to the record of passing events, the volume contains the correspondence of the Governor with Generals Washington, Greene, Heath, Varnum, the Count de Rochambeau, de la Luzerne, the President of Congress, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Governors of various states, etc., etc.

J. R. B.

PROVIDENCE, January, 1864.



# RHODE ISLAND RECORDS.



## R H O D E I S L A N D R E C O R D S.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at East Greenwich, on the last Monday in February, 1780.*

The Hon. William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

### ASSISTANTS.

Joshua Babcock, Esq.	Job Randall, Esq.
Paul Mumford, Esq.	Peter Phillips, Esq.
John Sayles, Esq.	Enoch Haszard, Esq.
James Arnold, Esq.	The secretary.
Gideon Comstock, Esq.	

### DEPUTIES.

#### *Newport.*

Caleb Gardner, Esq.,
Thomas Rumreill, Esq.,
Christopher Ellery, Esq.,
The clerk.

#### *Providence.*

Theodore Foster, Esq.,
Welcome Arnold, Esq.,
Mr. John I. Clark.

#### *Portsmouth.*

Metcalf Bowler, Esq.
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#### *Warwick.*

Mr. Speaker.
Thomas Holden, Esq.,
John Waterman, Esq.,
Adam Comstock, Esq.

#### *North Kingstown.*

John Northup, Esq.
--------------------

#### *South Kingstown.*

Samuel Babcock, Esq.,
Rowse J. Helme, Esq.

## DEPUTIES.

<i>East Greenwich.</i>	<i>Little Compton.</i>
Preserved Pearce, Esq.,	Mr. Zebedee Greenell.
Thomas Tillinghast, Esq.	<i>Warren.</i>
<i>Smithfield.</i>	Cromel Child, Esq.,
Mr. Sylvanus Sayles.	Nathan Miller, Esq.
<i>Scituate.</i>	<i>Cumberland.</i>
William West, Esq.	Jeremiah Whipple, Esq.
<i>Glocester.</i>	<i>Richmond.</i>
Mr. Simon Smith.	Mr. Simeon Clarke.
<i>Charlestown.</i>	<i>Cranston.</i>
Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq.,	Mr. Richard Searle,
Jonathan J. Hazard, Esq.	Mr. Isaac Senter.
<i>West Greenwich.</i>	<i>Hopkinton.</i>
Thomas Gorton, Esq.	Abel Tanner, Esq.,
<i>Coventry.</i>	Jesse Maxson, Esq.
Mr. William Burlingame,	<i>Johnston.</i>
Mr. David Brayton.	Caleb Harris, Esq.,
<i>Exeter.</i>	Edward Fenner, Esq.
John Chapman, Esq.,	<i>North Providence.</i>
Jeffery Wilcox, Esq.	Esek Hopkins, Esq.,
<i>Bristol.</i>	John Jenckes, Esq.
William Bradford, Esq.,	<i>Barrington.</i>
Benjamin Bourne, Esq.	Edward Bosworth, Esq.,
<i>Tiverton</i>	Samuel Allen, Esq.
Mr. Thomas Cory,	
Gilbert Devol, Esq.	

The Hon. Othniel Gorton, Esq., speaker; and William Channing, Esq., clerk.

Henry Ward, Esq., secretary.

William Channing, Esq., attorney general.

Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer.

## DELEGATES TO REPRESENT THE STATE IN CONGRESS.

The Honorable Stephen Hopkins, Esq.  
The Honorable William Ellery, Esq.  
The Honorable Henry Marchant, Esq.  
The Honorable John Collins, Esq.

## JUSTICES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

Shearjashub Bourne, Esq., chief; Thos. Wells, Esq., second; Paul Mumford, Esq., third; Stephen Potter, Esq., fourth; Gideon Comstock, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR NEWPORT COUNTY.

Benjamin Underwood, Esq., chief; William Richmond, Esq., second; Walter Cooke, Esq., third; Philip Taylor, Esq., fourth; William Taggart, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR PROVIDENCE COUNTY.

Thomas Greene, Esq., chief; Richard Steere, Esq., second; Rufus Hopkins, Esq., third; Jeremiah Whipple, Esq., fourth; Daniel Mowry, Jr., Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR KINGS COUNTY.

Samuel Babcock, Esq., chief; John Northup, Esq., second; Carder Hazard, Esq., third; Joseph Hoxsie, Esq., fourth; Immanuel Case, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR BRISTOL COUNTY.

Nathaniel Fales, Esq. chief; John Child, Esq., second; Joseph Reynolds, Esq., third; Josiah Humphry, Esq., fourth; Samuel Allen, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR KENT COUNTY.

Philip Greene, Esq., chief; James Arnold, Esq., second;

Gideon Mumford, Esq., third; Benjamin Tillinghast, Esq., fourth; Preserved Pearce, Esq., fifth.

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF ADMIRALTY.

John Foster, Esq., judge of the maritime court erected for the trial of prize causes, within and throughout the state.

SHERIFFS OF THE SEVERAL COUNTIES.

<i>Newport county.</i>	<i>Bristol county.</i>
Jabez Champlin, Esq.	Richard Smith, Esq.
<i>Providence county.</i>	<i>Kent county.</i>
William Rhodes, Esq.	Richard Fry, Esq.
<i>Kings county.</i>	
Beriah Brown, Esq.	

Mr. Charles Keen, inspector of steel in and throughout the state.

FIELD OFFICERS FOR THE STATE, IN THE SEVERAL COUNTIES.

Amos Atwell, Esq., colonel, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq., colonel, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Nathan Miller, Esq., colonel, of the regiment of militia, in the county of Bristol.

Thomas Holden, Esq., colonel, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Kent.

John Cooke, Esq., colonel, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Newport.

Chad Brown, Esq., colonel, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Charles Dyer, Esq., colonel, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Archibald Kasson, Esq., colonel, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Kent.

Simon Whipple, Esq., lieutenant colonel, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Jesse Maxson, Esq., lieutenant colonel, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Peter Church, Esq., lieutenant colonel, of the regiment of militia, in the county of Bristol.

Thomas Tillinghast, Esq., lieutenant colonel, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Kent.

John Angell, Esq., lieutenant colonel, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Thomas Potter, Jr., Esq., lieutenant colonel, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Thomas Gorton, Esq., lieutenant colonel, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Kent.

Richard Fenner, Jr., Esq., major, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Joseph Pendleton, Esq., major, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Peleg Heath, Esq., major, of the regiment of militia, in the county of Bristol.

Job Pierce, Esq., major, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Kent.

Asa Kimball, Esq., major, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Jonathan Maxson, Esq., major, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Isaac Johnson, Esq., major, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Kent.

*Officers to command the several Trained Bands, or Companies of Militia within the State.*

Providence. First company—Abimelech Riggs, captain; Hezekiah Dayton, lieutenant; Joseph Allen, ensign.

Second company—Lewis Peck, captain; Samuel Hamlin, lieutenant; Walker Harding, ensign.

Third company—Charles Keen, captain; Seth Wheaton, lieutenant; Jonathan Yeates, ensign.

Fourth company—Jas. Snow, captain; Zephaniah Brown, lieutenant; Joseph Fuller, ensign.

Warwick. First company—Job Randall, captain; James Arnold, 3d, lieutenant; James Carder, ensign.

Second company—Squire Miller, captain; James Jerauld, lieutenant; John Stafford, ensign.

Third company—Thomas Rice, son of Thomas, captain; Anthony Holden, Jr., lieutenant; Stukely Stafford, ensign.

Westerly. First company—Joshua Pendleton, captain; Samuel Brown, lieutenant; Oliver Lewis, ensign.

Second company—John Gavitt, captain; Stephen Saunders, lieutenant; William Bliven, ensign.

Third company—George Stillman, captain; Peleg Saunders, lieutenant; Asa Maxson, ensign.

Jamestown company—Edward Carr, Jr., captain; John Weeden, son of Daniel Weeden, Jr., lieutenant; Samuel Carr, ensign.

Smithfield. First company—Eber Angell, captain; Robert Bennett, lieutenant; Stephen Day, ensign.

Second company—Ebenezer Trask, captain; Simeon Ballou, lieutenant; Eli Read, ensign.

Third company—Daniel Mowry, 4th, captain; Benjamin Sheldon, lieutenant; John Carpenter, ensign.

Scituate. First company—Jona Knight, captain; Angell Sweet, lieutenant; David Wight, ensign.

Second company—Simeon Herrendeen, captain; George Dorrance, lieutenant; James Tyler, ensign.

Third company—Coomer Smith, captain; Jabel Angell, lieutenant; Gideon Harris, ensign.

Fifth company—Samuel Wilbour, captain; Thos. Field, lieutenant; William Potter, ensign.

Sixth company—William Howard, captain; James Wells, lieutenant; Samuel Perkins, ensign.

Glocester. First company—Benajah Whipple, captain; Richard Tucker, lieutenant; Peter Lewis, ensign.

Third company—Abraham Windsor, captain; Nathaniel Wade, lieutenant; Zebulon Wade, ensign.

Fourth company—Stephen Windsor, captain; Isaac Ross, lieutenant; Israel Smith, ensign.

West Greenwich. First company—Samuel Hopkins, Jr., captain; Joseph Niles, Jr., lieutenant; Joseph Dolliver, Jr., ensign.

Second company—Benj. Gorton, captain; Caleb Greene, lieutenant; Joseph Weaver, ensign.

Third company—Joseph Draper, captain; Joseph James, lieutenant; Judiah Aylesworth, ensign.

Coventry. First company—Benedict Colvin, captain; John Colvin, lieutenant; Joseph Brayton, ensign.

Second company—William Roy, captain; William Burlingame, lieutenant; Allen Mathewson, ensign.

Third company—Langford Weaver, captain; Samuel Greene, Jr., lieutenant; John Bucklin, ensign.

Fourth company—Asa Bennett, captain; Joseph Rice, lieutenant; Moses Blanchard, ensign.

Bristol company—William Throop, captain; Joseph Reynolds, lieutenant; Jonathan Diamond, ensign.

Cumberland. First company—Amaziah Weatherhead, captain; Jeremiah Scott, Jr., lieutenant; Ichabod Brown, Jr., ensign.

Second company—Amos Whipple, captain; William Ballou, lieutenant; Jeremiah Inman, ensign.

Cranston. First company—Anthony Potter, captain; Thomas Congdon, lieutenant; George Colvin, ensign.

Second company—Frederick Williams, captain; Nathaniel Carpenter, lieutenant; John Harris, ensign.

Third company—William Field, captain; Joseph Potter, lieutenant; Nehemiah Burlingame, ensign.

Hopkinton. First company—Henry Wells, captain; Sylvanus Maxson, lieutenant; Thomas Wells, Jr., ensign.

Second company—George Thurston, Jr., captain; Randall Wells, lieutenant; Joseph Thurston, ensign.

Third company—Azariah Crandall, captain; Lebbeus Cotterell, lieutenant; George Maxson, ensign.

Johnston. First company—Daniel Sprague, captain; Robert Potter, lieutenant; Isaac Arnold, ensign.

Second company—Emor Olney, captain; Daniel Angell, lieutenant; Laban Waterman, ensign.

Barrington company—Viall Allin, captain; Daniel Kinneutt, lieutenant; John Short, Jr., ensign.

Richard Fenner, Jr., Esq., lieutenant colonel, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Eleazer Jenckes, Esq., major of the said regiment.

*Officers Recommended to Congress for Promotion.*

Major Samuel Ward, to be lieutenant colonel; his commission to bear date May 26th, A. D. 1778.

Captain Ebenezer Flagg, to be major; his commission to bear the same date.

Lieutenant John Holden, to be captain; his commission to bear date October 10th, A. D. 1777.

Lieutenant Edward Slocum, to be captain; his commission to bear date May 26th, A. D. 1778.

Lieutenant Joseph Arnold, to be captain-lieutenant; his commission to bear date June 1st, A. D. 1778.

Ensign Charles Pierce, to be lieutenant; his commission to bear the same date.

Ensign John Cooke, to be lieutenant; his commission to bear the same date.

Daniel Dexter, to be lieutenant; his commission to be dated from the present time.

Upon the petition of Mr. Samuel Carr, now residing in Exeter, preferred unto this Assembly, praying that he may, for the year ensuing, improve the farm, lying in said Exe-

ter, which he hired of the state the two last years past, at a reasonable rent, and under such restrictions as this Assembly may think proper, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said farm be again leased to the said Samuel Carr, upon the same terms and conditions as are contained in the lease given the last year.

Whereas, William Bradford, Esq., presented unto this Assembly, the following statement of his account, for the rents received by him for divers confiscated estates; and also another account, which, with the auditor's report thereon, are as follows, to wit:

*William Bradford's Account presented to the General Assembly, relative to certain Confiscated Estates, &c.*

Dr. State of Rhode Island, in account for rents received, with William Bradford.

1779.	£ s. d.
March 20. To cash paid Joseph Clarke, Esq., per receipt .....	576 00 0
April 10. " " " " " .....	1,790 16 0
May 7. " " " " " .....	303 18 0
" 30. " " " " " .....	240 00 0
July 19. " " " " " .....	1,693 16 0
Aug. 28. " " " " " .....	168 00 0
July 16. " " Shearjashub Bourne, Jr, for clover seed.....	51 00 0
Balance due to the state .....	43 01 3
	<hr/>
	£4,866 11 8

Creditor.

1779.	£ s. d.
July 12. By one year's rent of Shearjashub Bourn, Jr., for the farm lately belonging to William Vassall, Esq. ....	946 08 3
" " By one year's rent of William Pearse, for the farm lately belonging to John Borland .....	645 10 5
" " By one year's rent of Nathan Munro, for the farm lately belonging to James Carpenter .....	539 02 0
May 31. By one year's rent of James Hill, for the house and shop, in Providence, lately belonging to Gilbert Deblois.....	192 00 0
" " By one year's rent of John Mumford, for the shop, in Providence, lately belonging to Jonathan Simpson .....	48 00 0
Mar. 13. By cash received of Pardon Gray, Esq., in part of the rents due from the estates in the county of Newport, for the year 1779 ..	444 03 0
May 8. By do. of do. .....	81 12 0
April 9. By cash received of Enoch Hazard, Esq., in part of the rents due in the county of Kings.....	1,801 16 0

1779.		£ s. d.
Aug. 28.	By cash received of Enoch Hazard, Esq., in part of the rents due in the county of Kings.....	168 00 0
		£4,865 11 8

Errors excepted,  
Per WILLIAM BRADFORD.

Dr.	State of Rhode Island to William Bradford.	£ s. d.
1780.	January. To cash paid Joseph Clarke, Esq., per receipt .....	602 12 0

1780.	Creditor.	
January.	By the amount of a judgment of court obtained by me, in favor of the state, at Kent inferior court, July term, A. D. 1779, against Thomas Greene, Cromel Child and Sylvester Child, for the stock they received of the state, from the farm lately belonging to William Vassall.....	602 12 0
	Errors excepted,	

Per WILLIAM BRADFORD.

East Greenwich, February 29, A. D. 1780.

Examined the within accounts, and compared the receipts with the charges of cash paid into the general treasury, and find them agree; and that there is a balance due thereon, from William Bradford, Esq., to this state, of £43 1s. 8d., lawful money.

NATHANIEL MUMFORD, Auditor.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; and that the said balance of £43 1s. d., lawful money, be paid by the said William Bradford, into the general treasury.

The account of William Bradford, Esq., exhibited unto this Assembly, for his time, horse-hire and expenses, in leasing, receiving rents for the confiscated estates for several years; drawing leases, bringing and prosecuting an action against Thomas Greene and others, for stock by them received, &c., the following report was made, to wit:

### *Report of the Committee, in favor of paying William Bradford.*

The subscribers being appointed to ascertain what William Bradford, Esq., should receive, for the above mentioned business, do report, that the sum of £600, lawful money, ought to be allowed him.

ESEK HOPKINS,  
JOHN JENCKES,  
WELCOME ARNOLD, } Committee.

Which being duly considered,—

It voted and resolved, that the said sum of £600, lawful money, be allowed and paid the said William Bradford, out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the draught of a letter presented unto this Assembly, by James M. Varnum, Esq., advocate of the court of admiralty, in this state, to William Ellery, Esq., now a delegate from this state in Congress, respecting a claim made by —— Melally, captain of a privateer, to the sloop Crawford, a British vessel, which came into the harbor of Newport soon after it was evacuated by the enemy, and was condemned for the benefit of the state, be, and the same is hereby, approved; and that the said James M. Varnum transmit a copy thereof, to the said Wm. Ellery, as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that William Bradford, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to call upon the committees in the several counties for receiving rents due to this state, for a settlement of their accounts; who are hereby directed to settle with him accordingly; and that he commence actions as soon as may be, against all those who are deficient in the payment of the rents due to the state in the year 1778.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said William Bradford be, and he is hereby, fully empowered to adjust, settle and receive all rents due as aforesaid, for the year 1779.

The petition of Mrs. Sarah Corey, of North Kingstown, preferred unto this Assembly, representing that her husband, William Corey, was removed from his estate, in said North Kingstown, twelve miles back into the country, there to remain during the pleasure of this Assembly; that he hath strictly obeyed the said order, ever since April, A. D. 1778; and that she is much embarrassed in managing the estate of her said husband; and praying this Assembly to permit him to return home to his family, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said William Corey be

permitted to reside on his farm, in North Kingstown, under the penalty of forfeiting to the state the sum of £1,000, lawful money; to be recovered by the general treasurer, before any inferior court in the state, in case he shall be found out of the limits thereof.

It is voted and resolved, that Brigadier General Cornell, Caleb Gardner and Benjamin Almy, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee, to examine and determine the claims of all persons to the rails which enclose the forage and wood-yards, in the town of Newport; and that they make an equitable distribution of the said rails to the original proprietors:

Whereas, Mrs. Elizabeth Wightman, of North Kingstown, preferred a petition unto this Assembly, and represented that her husband, George Wightman, being disaffected to the cause of this country, joined the enemy, whereby his whole estate was confiscated; that she is in very distressed circumstances, having one child, who is an idiot, and another very sick; and that she is utterly unable to support herself and family; and thereupon she prayed for relief; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Elizabeth Wightman be, and she is hereby, permitted to improve one-third part of the dwelling house on the estate lately belonging to George Wightman, deceased, for the term of one year, from the 25th day of March next; and that she receive, during the said time, one-third part of the rents and profits of the said estate, for the support of herself and children.

The petition of Mr. Holmes Wightman, of North Kingstown, preferred unto this Assembly, representing that his father, George Wightman, left his family and joined the British army, whereby his estate was confiscated; that the said estate, by being neglected, is much out of repair; and that the same is an estate in fee tail, the said George Wightman having only a life estate therein; and praying this Assembly to permit him to improve the said estate, for a just and reasonable rent, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said estate, lying in North Kingstown, be leased to the said Holmes Wightman, for the term of one year, from the 25th day of March next; and that Thomas Tillinghast and Richard Fry, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to determine what rent shall be allowed for the same.

Whereas, Esek Hopkins, Esq., and Mr. Nathaniel Mumford, presented unto this Assembly the following report, together with an account for their services, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly, to examine into certain payments, allowances, &c., made to the officers and soldiers in the battalions commanded by Cols. Christopher Greene, Henry Sherburne and Israel Angell.*

We, the subscribers, being, by the Honorable the General Assembly, at their session, in December last, appointed a committee to ascertain the grants made from time to time, to the field, commissioned and staff officers, and to the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers of this state's quota of Continental troops, in the battalions commanded by Cols. Christopher Greene, Henry Sherburne and Israel Angell; and having carefully examined the several grants made to the said officers and soldiers, either by the General Assembly, or council of war, do report:

That it appears to us, that the field, commissioned and staff officers of the said battalions have been paid up the amount of one-quarter part of their wages and subsistence to the 1st day of January, A. D. 1779; and that the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers have been paid up the full amount of the subsistence money due to them, to the said 1st day of January, A. D. 1779, excepting the balance that may be due in refreshments to the said Christopher Greene and Israel Angell's regiments, from John Jenckes and Esek Hopkins, Esqs.

We also report, that at the August session, A. D. 1779, the said John Jenckes and Esek Hopkins were empowered to draw the sum of £20,000, lawful money, out of the general treasury, to purchase refreshments for the Continental officers and soldiers; of which they have received £14,942, with which sum they have purchased refreshments, and supplied the said battalions in the following manner, to wit:

Colonel Sherburne's regiment hath received the balance of refreshments due to them from January the 3d, to September the 1st, A. D. 1779, amounting to £114, 14s. 5d., lawful money, in articles at the stated prices; which articles cost about £1,350, lawful money; and which balance of £114 14s. 11d., appears to be still due from the said Colonel Sherburne.

Colonel Angell's regiment hath received the sum of £861, in articles at the stated prices; which articles cost about £10,332, lawful money.

And that Colonel Greene's regiment hath received the sum of £258 2s. 6d., in articles at the stated prices; which articles cost about £3,260, lawful money. All which appears by the accounts herewith exhibited.

We also report, that Thomas Greene, Esq., as state commissary, hath supplied Col. Greene's regiment with ten hundred three quarters and five pounds of brown sugar, one

hundred and twelve gallons of West India rum, one hundred and nineteen gallons of New England rum, and one hundred and seventy-six pounds of coffee; and that he hath supplied Colonel Angell's regiment with seventy-one hundred and seventeen pounds of brown sugar, six hundred and forty-seven pounds of coffee, one hundred and eighty-four gallons of West India rum, and three hundred and forty-six gallons of New England rum; all which appears by his accounts herewith presented; it also appears that the officers and privates of Colonel Greene's regiment have been paid the full amount of the subsistence money due to them, up to the 1st day of August, A. D. 1779; and that the officers and privates of Colonel Angell's regiment have been paid the full amount of the subsistence money due to them, up to the 1st day of December, A. D. 1779; all which appears by their abstracts on the files of the General Assembly and council of war.

We have also examined the accounts of the committees of the several towns, who have been appointed to supply the Continental officers and soldiers with articles at the stated prices; by which it appears that the said officers and soldiers have been supplied by the said committees, agreeably to the several acts of Assembly for that purpose; the accounts for which, we herewith present.

We also report, that the officers of Colonel Angell's regiment have been supplied with clothing from the Continental and state stores, to the amount of £2,017 18s. 9d., lawful money; that the officers of Colonel Greene's regiment have been supplied with clothing from the Continental and state stores, to the amount of £1,701 4s. 5d., lawful money; and that the officers of Colonel Sherburne's regiment have been supplied from the Continental store with clothing, to the amount of £574 18s. 2d., lawful money; all which articles are charged in the agent-clothier's books to the several officers of the said battalions, at the rate of four for one from the sterling cost; which appears by the clothier's accounts herewith presented.

We also report, that there hath been sent forward to the Continental army, for the use of Colonels Greene and Angell's regiments, which have not been charged to them towards their subsistence, fourteen hogsheads of sugar, three hogsheads of Jamaica rum, and seven hundred and forty-seven pounds of coffee; that Colonel Greene's regiment hath received from the commissary of hides and tallow, four thousand and fifty pounds of hides, for which they paid sixpence, lawful money, per pound; that Col. Sherburne's regiment hath been supplied with six thousand eight hundred and thirty-two pounds of hides, for which they paid sixpence, lawful money, per pound; and that Colonel Angell's regiment hath been supplied with four thousand three hundred and thirty-eight pounds of hides, for which they have paid nothing; that a sum of money stands charged in the auditor's book, against the several officers, amounting to the sum of £8,257 12s. 10d., lawful money, which it does not appear that they have ever accounted for; a great part of which sum appears to be balances due from the said officers for moneys by them received, for the recruiting service, in the year 1777, which they have been ordered to pay into the general treasury; but by the treasurer's books it appears that very few of the said balances were ever paid; all which appears by the accounts herewith exhibited.

It also appears, that the soldiers, who were recruited in May and June, 1777, for three years, or during the war, received large extra bounties from the several towns where they were enlisted, which we cannot exactly ascertain, as we are not furnished with the returns; but from the best accounts we have been able to obtain, as much as \$300, per man, upon an average.

We also report, that the officers have received rum, from time to time of the commissaries, at the rate of nine shillings per gallon; and that Colonel Sherburue hath been paid the amount of the subsistence due to his regiment, up to the 3d of July, A. D. 1779.

Upon the whole, we beg leave to report, that we have ascertained the several matters herein contained, with as much certainty as we were able, agreeably to the returns with which we were furnished from the several towns and committees, who have been from

time to time appointed to supply the officers and soldiers; but that, as they have been variously conducted, and gone through so many different channels, we found it almost impracticable to ascertain them with any degree of precision.

All which is submitted by your humble servants,

ESEK HOPKINS,  
NATHANIEL MUMFORD, } Committee.

State of Rhode Island,	Dr.
	<i>L s. d.</i>
To Esek Hopkins, for eighteen days' attendance on the above business, at £8.....	144 00 0
To Nathaniel Mumford, for eight days' attendance on the above business, at £8.....	64 00 0

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; and that the said sum of £144, be allowed to the said Esek Hopkins; and the said sum of £64, lawful money, be allowed the said Nathaniel Mumford; and that the same be paid them out of the general treasury.

The petition of divers freemen and freeholders, of the town of Bristol, to wit: Nathaniel Smith, William Munro, Edward Munro, Jonathan Fales, Stephen Talby, Benjamin Wardwell, Moses Van Doorn, Isaac Wardwell, Nathaniel Manchester, John Norris, Jr. and Timothy Diman, preferred unto this Assembly, representing, that soon after the British troops took possession of the island of Rhode Island, they were obliged to flee, with their families, into the state of Massachusetts; and that upon their return to Bristol, they found themselves deprived of the rights of citizenship, by reason of their not having signed the test required by law; and praying this Assembly to grant them liberty to sign the said test, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Nathaniel Smith, William Munro, Edward Munro, Jonathan Fales, Stephen Talby, Benjamin Wardwell, Moses Van Doorn, Isaac Wardwell, Nathaniel Manchester, John Norris, Jr. and Timothy Diman, be, and they are hereby, permitted to subscribe the said test before the town council of the said town of Bristol.

It is voted and resolved, that the act of this Assembly, for preventing the exportation of the articles therein enu-

merated, by land, from this state, made and passed at the last October session, so far as the same respects the state of Massachusetts Bay, be, and the same is hereby, repealed; that His Excellency the Governor be requested to communicate this resolution to the president of the council of the said state of Massachusetts Bay; and that a copy hereof, be published in the Newport and Providence newspapers.

Whereas, it hath been represented unto this Assembly, that divers articles of furniture, which were heretofore taken from the island of Rhode Island, and are now in the possession of Abraham Greene, town sergeant of the town of East Greenwich, belonged to, and were, the property of William Stoddard, late of Middletown, deceased,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said goods be delivered by the said Abraham Greene, to Abigail Stoddard and Mary Stoddard, daughters of the said William Stoddard; and that they satisfy the said Abraham Greene for taking possession of the same.

Whereas, divers inhabitants of the town of East Greenwich, presented a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that at the May session, A. D. 1774, a lottery was granted, for raising the sum of \$600, to be applied towards purchasing a lot, and building a school house, in the compact part of said town; and that it is now thought it will be beneficial to build a house sufficient for two schools; and thereupon they prayed this Assembly to grant them a lottery, to raise the sum of \$40,000, for the purpose aforesaid; and that Preserved Pearce and John Reynolds, Esqs., and Mr. Oliver Arnold, of said East Greenwich; and Silas Casey, Esq., of Warwick, may be continued directors thereof; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted; that Archibald Crary, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed one of the directors of the said lottery; that the said directors give bond to the general treasurer for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them, and to render an account within two

years of the appropriation of the money to the purpose for which it is granted; and that no expense accrue thereon to the state.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, permitted to send six barrels of cider to Block Island, to his brother-in-law, John Littlefield, Esq., for the use of his family.

It is voted and resolved, that the two estates, lying in South Kingstown and Little Compton, belonging to Gideon Sisson, of Newport, merchant, heretofore leased by order of this Assembly, be surrendered up to the said Gideon Sisson, on the 25th day of March, A. D. 1780; and that the leases made to the general treasurer of said estate, lying in South Kingstown, and not fulfilled by the lessee, be also delivered to him, that he may obtain payment thereof.

It is voted and resolved, that Mrs. —— Miers, with her children, be, and they are hereby, permitted to go to New York, in the first flag, under the direction of General Cornell.

Upon the certificate given by Colonel Henry Sherburne, to Mr. William Christophers, exhibited unto this Assembly, for his services, in commanding one of the guard-boats at Bristol, from December the 6th, A. D. 1778, to November the 5th, A. D. 1779,—

It is voted and resolved, that it be recommended to Benjamin Stelle, Esq., deputy paymaster general, to pay the said William Christophers the wages and rations of an ensign, from his last payment to the date of the said certificate.

It is voted and resolved, that the act of this Assembly, entitled "An act to prevent the depreciation of the Continental currency, and other current money of the United States of America, or the current paper bills of either of the states in New England," made and passed at the July session, A. D. 1776, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Whereas, it hath been represented to this Assembly, that

part of the Continental taxes assigned to the town of Newport, at the last session of this Assembly, hath been assessed upon the real and personal estates of persons supposed to be inimical to the United States; which estates are in the possession of the sheriff of the county of Newport, in consequence of informations filed against the same by the attorney general,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said sheriff, on application of the collector of taxes for the town of Newport, be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to deliver to the said collector so much of the personal estate of the said persons respectively as will be sufficient to discharge the said taxes, unless the proprietors shall pay the same; and that the said collector give the sheriff a receipt for the goods which shall be so received by him, and dispose of the same at public vendue, and render an account of the sales thereof, to this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that it be recommended to the agent-clothier in this state, to deliver out of the Continental store, to Mr. Nathaniel Mumford, clothier for this state, four suits of soldiers' clothes, to be by him delivered to Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Olney, for the use of four soldiers of Colonel Angell's regiment, who are enlisted during the war, and are now ordered to join the regiment.

Whereas, there are at present two hospitals kept in this state, one at Providence, and the other at Newport, whereby the public expense is much augmented, and one hospital will be sufficient for the troops in this state; and as the college edifice in Providence, which is improved as one, is now wanted to be improved agreeably to its original institution; and that at Newport is in a very exposed situation,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the commanding officer of the troops in this state be, and he is hereby, directed to cause the said hospitals to be removed to the barracks, at Tiverton, as soon as may be; and that he call on the deputy quartermaster general to cause such repairs to

be made to the said barracks from time to time as shall be absolutely necessary, until the further order of this Assembly, or the council of war.

Whereas, Mr. Samuel Goldthwait, of Newport, preferred a petition unto this Assembly, representing that his brother lately died at New York, leaving a large estate, which is now in the hands of persons wasting the same ; that he is duly authorized to settle and adjust the said estate, provided he can obtain permission to go to New York ; and that he is possessed in his own right of a considerable sum of money, in protested bills of exchange, the drawers of which are now at New York, that may be obtained by his being on the spot ; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to permit him to go to New York, to settle and obtain the said effects and moneys, and that he may return with the same ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Samuel Goldthwait be, and he is hereby, permitted to proceed to New York, either by land or water, as General Cornell shall direct; and that he have liberty to return again to this state with the effects he may collect.

Major Daniel Box having exhibited unto this Assembly an abstract of the wages and subsistence money due to him from the United States, for the months of December, January and February last, amounting to £315, lawful money,—

It is thereupon voted and resolved, that it be recommended to Benjamin Stelle, Esq., deputy paymaster general in this state, to pay the said abstract to the said Daniel Box.

It is voted and resolved, that it be recommended to John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier in this state, to supply Major Daniel Box with one suit of clothing, out of the Continental store.

Whereas, Peter Burlingame, Esq., Mr. Samuel Tompkins and John Andrews, Esq., all of Cranston, preferred a

petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that the general treasurer hath issued an execution against the said town of Cranston for the sum of £2,125, lawful money, as part of the said town's proportion of the last Continental and state taxes, not paid into the general treasury; that the said deficiency is wholly owing to the neglect of Mr. Randall Briggs, collector of the said taxes, who is at this time gone a long journey into the country, which obliged the said Peter Burlingame, for his own security, to sue the said Samuel Tompkins and John Andrews, who are bondsmen for the said Randall Briggs, to a special court; that in consequence thereof, the said Samuel Tompkins and John Andrews have attached all the real estate of the said Randall Briggs, to satisfy the said execution; and that upon examination of the rate bills, there appears to be more than £1,600, lawful money, uncollected; and thereupon they prayed this Assembly to direct that the execution issued by the general treasurer against the said Peter Burlingame, and all other proceedings thereon may be stayed, until the money can be raised out of the said Randall Briggs's estate, or in some other way, with the interest for the sum due, from the time the same should have been paid into the general treasury; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted; that the said town of Cranston be permitted to collect and pay the said sum for which the execution issued at any time on or before the 1st day of May next; and that the said town pay the interest which may be due thereon, from the time the same was payable until the execution be satisfied.

It is voted and resolved, that a tax of £180,000, lawful money, be assessed upon the inhabitants of this state, for its proportion of the \$15,000,000, recommended by Congress to be raised monthly, by the United States, for three months; the one-third part thereof to be paid into the general treasury on

the 1st day of April next; another third part thereof, on the 1st day of May next; and the remaining third part on the 1st day of June next.

It is voted and resolved, that the act of this Assembly, made and passed at the October session, A. D. 1779, for preventing the exportation of certain articles therein named, be, and remain, in force until the 1st day of April next.

It is voted and resolved, that James M. Varnum and Theodore Foster, Esqs., and Mr. Isaac Senter be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draught a bill, agreeably to a resolution of Congress, of January the 14th last, and make report to this Assembly at the next session.

The account of Mr. Daniel Kinnicutt, exhibited unto this Assembly, for eighteen pair of yarn stockings delivered into the state's store, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said eighteen pair of stockings be returned to the said Daniel Kinnicutt, by the state clothier.

Whereas, the sum of £7,500, lawful money, levied by a tax, in pursuance of an act of this Assembly, passed at the February session, A. D. 1778, to discharge part of this state's proportion of a Continental tax, recommended by a resolution of Congress, of November the 22d, A. D. 1777, was, by an order of the council of war, taken out of the Continental loan office, and placed in the general treasury, to defray the necessary expenses of this state; and whereas, a further sum of £7,500, lawful money, levied by a tax, in pursuance of an act, passed at the June session, A. D. 1778, for the same purpose, was, by an order of the council of war, taken out of the loan office, and placed in the general treasury, to defray the necessary expenses of this state, which sums still remain unpaid,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to pay the sum of

£15,000, lawful money out of the general treasury of this state, into the Continental loan office, to re-pay the said sums so borrowed.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee for settling and adjusting the accounts of the officers and soldiers in the Continental service, appointed and raised by this state, and considered as the quota thereof, consider those officers only who are now in service, or have died in service, or have been discharged through disability.

It is voted and resolved, that Colonel Henry Sherburne, and the officers of his battalion, belonging to this state, be considered by the said committee as officers of this state; that the surgeon and mates of Colonel Christopher Greene's and Colonel Israel Angell's regiments, be entitled to the same privileges as the other officers; and that the said committee consider the circumstances of Major Daniel Box, and report what he ought to receive from this state.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the said committee adjust the said accounts upon the principles of equity and justice; any thing in the former resolution for adjusting the said accounts to the contrary, notwithstanding.

The petition of Mrs. Anne Ferguson, of Newport, preferred unto this Assembly, praying that she may have liberty to go to New York, to her husband, and carry with her her moveable effects, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Anne Ferguson be, and she is hereby, permitted to go to New York, in the first flag, under the direction of General Cornell, and carry her household furniture and apparel.

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing, John Jenckes, Peter Phillips, William Bradford and Charles Holden, Esqs., or the major part of them, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to lease out, for the term of one year, from the 25th of March, A. D. 1780, the real estates which have been heretofore taken possession of by this state, and all other real estates, belonging to any

persons heretofore subjects of this state, who have withdrawn themselves, or are now with the enemy, on such terms and conditions as the said committee shall think fit; excepting the farms which are to be rented for produce at the prices affixed in the act regulating the prices of articles, passed at the May second session, A. D. 1777.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that the enemy, when in possession of Jamestown, did cut the following quantities of hay from the lands of the persons whose names are set down in the subsequent list; which hay, upon the evacuation of that island, fell into the hands of our army, and now remains upon Jamestown, to wit:

	Tons.		Tons.
Josiah Arnold,	- 40	Widow Hull,	- - 5
— Laws,	- - 12	John Howland,	- - 15
— Robinson,	- 30	Edward Carr,	- - 10
Joseph Clarke,	- - 20	George Hazard,	- - 14
John Gardner,	5	Samuel Carr,	- - 6
— Martin,	- - 2	Teddiman Hull,	- - 8
Widow Franklin,	- 12		—
James Carr,	- - 13		58
	—		134
	134		—
			192

And whereas, the above named persons suffered very greatly in their estates, during the time the enemy were in possession of that island, and have received no payment for the same, and ought to be considered upon those accounts; it is therefore recommended to the deputy quartermaster general in this state, to deliver to the above named persons, their respective attorneys or representatives, one-half of the above mentioned quantity of hay set against each person's name; Josiah Arnold and Joseph Clarke having each of them received five tons, and John Howland three tons, those quantities are to be deducted from their respective proportions; provided there be such a quantity as that one-

half thereof will be sufficient for that purpose, after first stopping twenty tons of hay cut upon the farm of Jerathmeel Bowers, and stacked with the rest; and in case there shall not then be a sufficient quantity as aforesaid, that he deliver out the hay in proportion to the above list.

Whereas, it is represented to this Assembly, that four stacks of hay, cut from the land in Middletown, belonging to William Taggart, Esq., by a British sergeant, was left undisposed of, and is now on the farm of Giles Slocum,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Giles Slocum deliver to the said William Taggart the said hay, that he may dispose of and appropriate the same to his own use.

Whereas, Mr. Zebedee Story, of Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that during the time the British troops held possession of the said town, he was an inhabitant thereof; that having dealings with Stephen Deblois (who has withdrawn himself with the enemy), to a considerable amount, on a final settlement there was due to the said Stephen Deblois upwards of £400, sterling; for the payment of which he gave two bills of exchange, which are negotiable; that information being made to the council of war, that the said Zebedee Story had in his hands property of the said Stephen Deblois, they resolved, that the sum of £420, sterling, should be deposited by him in the general treasury, there to remain until the same should be proceeded against; and that in default thereof, the sheriff of the county of Newport should seize the amount of the said sum, in cash or goods belonging to the said Zebedee Story, and keep the same until the property thereof should be determined; and that, in consequence of the said resolve, the said Zebedee Story's goods have been seized to the amount of near £500, sterling, to his great prejudice; and thereupon, he prayed this Assembly to direct that he may receive his goods, that he may be proceeded against according to the usual practice of foreign attachments; or that he may be otherwise relieved; and

whereas, the following agreement was entered into, in the presence of this Assembly, to wit :

*Agreement between the Attorney General and Zebedee Story,  
relative to Stephen Deblois.*

" It is agreed by the attorney general, in behalf of this state, and the said Zebedee Story, that the said Zebedee Story shall deliver to the said attorney general, to be by him deposited in the general treasury of this state, the sum of £180, sterling, in gold or silver, and give bond to the general treasurer, with sufficient sureties, to the satisfaction of the attorney general, for the payment of such further sum, if any, as shall be adjudged by the superior court of judicature, &c., to be due from the said Zebedee Story to the said Stephen Deblois, in gold or silver, agreeably to the contract with the said Stephen Deblois; or in goods at the sterling cost; that upon the said Zebedee Story's compliance herewith, the whole of the goods shall be restored to him which have been taken out of his possession, by virtue of the resolution of the council of war.

It is further agreed, that if the said sum of £180, in sterling money, to be deposited in the general treasury, as aforesaid, or any part thereof, shall not, by the judgment of the said superior court, be considered as liable to confiscation, by being the property of the said Stephen Deblois; then, and in that case, the said sum so deposited, or such part thereof as shall be adjudged not liable to confiscation as aforesaid, shall be returned in gold or silver, to the said Zebedee Story.

And the foregoing agreement having been approved by this Assembly,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the same be confirmed and established accordingly.

The account of Mr. Caleb Gardner, exhibited unto this Assembly, for the sale of fifty bushels of rye, raised on the Point Farm (so called), in South Kingstown, together with the auditor's report thereon, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the sum found due, being £269, lawful money, be paid by the said Caleb Gardner, into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the deputy forage-master, or his assistant, at Newport, deliver to Metcalf Bowler, Esq., eighteen hundred two quarters and fourteen pounds weight of hay; the same being one-half the quantity cut on the said Metcalf Bowler's farm, in Portsmouth, and carried to the forage yard, in Newport.

It is voted and resolved, that Brigadier General Cornell procure a copy, from the books or returns of the forage-master in the British service, respecting the hay left by the

enemy upon Jamestown and Rhode Island ; and from whom the same was taken without being paid for, in order that the same may be lodged in the secretary's office ; and that every person who may receive any such hay, in consequence of any resolution of this Assembly, previous to their taking the same, shall produce the evidence they have of their property therein ; and that General Cornell be requested to lodge the said proofs in the secretary's office.

It is voted and resolved, that the recognizance of Stephen Potter be continued to the next session of this Assembly ; and that he then personally appear before this Assembly, agreeably to the tenor of the said recognizance.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that Tibbits Hopkins, Peter Albro, William Sachel, Francis Corey, Christopher Vaughan, —— Tripp (son of Peleg), heretofore subjects of this state, who withdrew therefrom, and joined the enemy, have been since made prisoners, and were confined on board of a prison-ship, from whence they have deserted, and are now at large within this state ; wherefore— .

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriffs of the several counties and their respective deputies be, and they are hereby, directed forthwith to apprehend any or either of the aforesigned persons, who may be within their respective districts, and them closely confine, in either of the jails within this state ; and that they make report thereof to the council of war.

It is further voted and resolved, that the council of war make order for the removal of the aforesigned persons, when apprehended, to some one of the Continental frigates ; and that they be confined and do duty on board such vessel during the present war.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if any or either of the aforesigned persons shall desert the said service, that they be forthwith apprehended and punished as deserters.

It is voted and resolved, that Ezekiel Tripp, Samuel Littlefield and Caleb Arnold, Jr., of Exeter ; Thomas Greene,

late of Otter Creek, now in Newport; Daniel Briggs (son of Ebenezer), of Warwick; and — Underwood (son of John), of North Kingstown; who, having joined the enemy, afterwards returned, and are now at large within this state, be cited by the proper sheriffs to appear before the council of war, at their session, in Providence, on Wednesday, the 15th of March, A. D. 1780, for examination; and that the council of war take such order with them as they shall think proper.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that rigging-cables, anchors, and other articles have been taken by certain persons residing in the county of Bristol, from a sloop belonging to Mr. Robert Lawton, which was heretofore employed as a flag from Newport, and while in that service was cast on shore at Warwick Neck,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Mr. Shubael Kinnicutt, a deputy sheriff in the said county of Bristol, be, and he is hereby, empowered to make search for the said goods, in any suspected places, within the said county; that he take them, if to be found, into his possession; and that he make report thereof, to the council of war.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said Shubael Kinnicutt apprehend all such persons as shall be possessed of the said goods, and take them before the proper authority, within the said county, that they may be recognized for trial, or otherwise dealt with agreeably to law.

It is voted and resolved, that Brigadier General Ezekiel Cornell, Colonel Robert Elliott and Colonel John Topham, be continued in their respective offices, until the further orders of this Assembly; that the said Robert Elliott and John Topham make out a list of the officers necessary to be continued in command, and a return of the number of men in their respective regiments, and lay the same before the council of war, for their approbation.

It is further voted and resolved, that the non-commisioned officers and private soldiers in Colonel William Bar-

ton's corps, be turned over to do duty in the regiments commanded by the said Robert Elliott and John Topham.

It is voted and resolved, that it be recommended to the deputy quartermaster general in this state, to sell all the hay belonging to the Continent in his possession, that shall be more than sufficient to keep the Continental horses until new hay can be purchased.

Whereas, Charles Thompson, Esq., secretary of Congress, in a letter to His Excellency the Governor, dated the 20th of November, A. D. 1779, transmitted to this state a duplicate of the resolve of Congress, passed March the 16th, A. D. 1778, earnestly requesting that attested copies of acts passed by the legislatures of the several states, in pursuance of recommendations of Congress from time to time might be transmitted to Congress; and also of the form of government, and of the public acts passed since the Declaration of Independence, that the same may be deposited in his office, for the information of Congress,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the Honorable Jabez Bowen, Esq., Theodore Foster, Esq., and the secretary, be a committee to answer the said letter, and to procure and transmit to the said secretary of Congress, the public acts of the Legislature, and documents, requested in the said resolve of Congress and aforesaid letter.

It is voted and resolved, that the town clerks of the several towns within this state, be, and they are hereby, directed to transmit immediately to the committee appointed to settle the depreciation-accounts of the officers and soldiers, belonging to this state's Continental battalions, an account of all bounties given to the said soldiers, whether the same arose from levying them by classing the inhabitants, or otherwise; and that a copy of this act be immediately sent to the several town clerks.

It is voted and resolved, that Colonel Christopher Greene, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of \$12,000, out of the general treasury, for paying the boun-

ties to the men who shall enlist into his battalion, agreeably to a resolution of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that a sufficient number of men be immediately enlisted, to serve during the war, in the Continental battalions of this state, under the command of Colonel Christopher Greene and Colonel Israel Angell, so as to complete the said battalions (including those already enlisted, and such as shall enlist into Colonel Henry Sherburne's regiment, under the direction of this Assembly), to the number of eight hundred and ten men, non-commisioned officers and privates, agreeably to a resolution of Congress, of the 9th of February, A. D. 1780; that each non-commisioned officer and soldier who shall enlist into the said battalions, as aforesaid, shall be allowed, as a bounty, \$300, in addition to the bounty and subsistence allowed by Congress; and that the non-commisioned officers and soldiers in the brigade under the command of General Cornell, be permitted to enlist into the said battalions.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the pay of the said non-commisioned officers shall be made equal to silver or gold; allowing the same monthly wages as to those already in service.

It is voted and resolved, that Colonel Henry Sherburne be permitted to draw the sum of \$6,000, out of the general treasury, for recruiting the troops now in his battalion, belonging to this state; that the troops so to be recruited be considered as a part of this state's proportion in the Continental army; that the sum of \$300, be paid to each recruit, over and above the Continental bounty; and that the said non-commisioned officers and soldiers so enlisted, shall have their wages made equal to silver and gold, in the same manner as those enlisted into the battalions commanded by Colonel Christopher Greene, and Colonel Israel Angell.

For the more immediate and effectual raising the troops assigned for this state's proportion of the Continental army,—

It is voted and resolved, that the brigadier generals of the militia appoint a recruiting officer in each town, in the limits of their respective brigades; who, upon enlisting an able-bodied soldier, to serve during the present war, in either of the battalions commanded by Col. Christopher Greene, or Colonel Israel Angell, and producing a certificate from the commanding officer of either battalion for the time being, ascertaining the same, shall receive, for every one so enlisted, the sum of £9, lawful money, out of the general treasury; and that the officers in the brigade under the command of Brigadier General Cornell, who shall enlist any of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers in the said brigade, into either of the said battalions, shall be entitled to, and receive, the same bounty.

Whereas, it is incompatible with the constitution of this state, for the legislative or judicial and powers of government to be vested in the same persons,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that for the future, no member, either of the upper or lower house of Assembly, continuing such, shall exercise the office of a justice of the superior court, within this state, from and after the next election.

Whereas, James Wightman, Benjamin Sweet, Samuel Wightman, Richard Briggs, John Briggs, Jr., Jonathan Johnston, Stephen Cooper and William Markes, all of East Greenwich, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that through inattention they had neglected to subscribe the test required by law; and thereupon prayed that they might be permitted to subscribe the same, before the town council of said East Greenwich; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted.

It is voted and resolved, that Samuel Gardner, Walter Nichols, Joshua Lanpher, Joshua Lanpher, Jr., William Maxson, Jr., Francis Robinson, Edward Robinson, Isaiah Maxson,

Joshua Tanner, Benjamin Crandal, Jonathan West, Oliver Babcock, Daniel Lewis, Samuel Maxson, Samuel Maxson, Jr., Peter Burdick, Elisha Burdick, Samuel Rogers, Peleg Kinyon, John Witter, Zaccheus Reynolds, John Crandal, Jesse Lewis, John Gardner, John Burdick and Joseph Davis, all of Hopkinton, be, and they are hereby, permitted to sign the test required by law, before the town council of the said town of Hopkinton; provided that it shall appear they have been friends to this county, and as such have conducted themselves in the present dispute with Great Britain.

It is voted and resolved, that Richard Fry, Esq., make sale, at public vendue, of the cheese in his hands, belonging to the state; that he pay the money arising from the sale thereof, into the general treasury; and that he deliver the wool by him received unto John Reynolds, Esq., who hath undertaken to procure the same to be manufactured into, or exchanged for, articles for the use of the army.

It is voted and resolved, that the attorney general forthwith prosecute Stephen Potter, for the balance due from him to this state, agreeably to the report of a committee, appointed to ascertain the same at the last September session, to the first inferior court of common pleas which shall be held in the county of Newport.

It is voted and resolved, that all penalties, fines and forfeitures, of a pecuniary nature, be, and they are hereby, raised twenty fold, to what they were on the 19th day of April, A. D. 1775; and that this resolution be published in all the newspapers in this state.

It is voted and resolved, that in all trials of criminal causes, where the party accused shall be acquitted, the jurors shall be paid the same fees as in cases of conviction; and that the foreman of the jury receive the same out of the general treasury, on the certificate of the clerk of the court before whom the trial was had.

It is voted and resolved, that Richard Fry, Esq., deliver

unto Brigadier General Ezekiel Cornell, one barrel of pork, now in his hands, belonging to this state; and that the same be paid for by the said Ezekiel Cornell, at the customary price.

Whereas, a quantity of wool, belonging to this state, was heretofore delivered to Stephen Potter, Esq., to be manufactured into cloth,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that John Northup and Rowse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire whether the same hath been manufactured, and the cloth delivered; that they also inquire into the disposition ~~of~~ a quantity of wool, heretofore received by the sheriff of the county of Kings, of Charles Slocum; and that they make report to this Assembly, or the council of war, as soon as may be.

Whereas, Mr. Isaac Manchester, exhibited unto this Assembly, an account of the sale of a quantity of wool, belonging to this state, sold by him and Thomas Corey; which being duly considered, together with the auditor's report thereon,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount thereof, being £959 2s., lawful money, be paid by the said Thomas Corey, into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the following staff officers in the militia, be, and they are hereby, appointed, that they make out the necessary arrangements, to wit:

*Staff Officers for the Militia, Chosen.*

Thomas Lovett, Esq., quartermaster general.

Charles Holden, Esq., commissary general.

Archibald Crary, Esq., adjutant general.

Jonathan Arnold, Esq., purveyor general to the medical department.

Isaac Senter, Esq., physician and surgeon general.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Gov-

ernor be requested to represent to the board of admiralty, that the Pigot galley, belonging to the United States, now lying in this state, as a guard-vessel, is rotten, and otherwise quite unfit for service; and that it will be most for the advantage of the United States to have her sold, with a reservation of her military stores, for public use; and that His Excellency propose to the said board, that in lieu of her, another proper vessel be purchased, armed and kept as a guard-vessel, for the protection and defence of this state, and the other United States; and that the sale of the said Pigot galley, and the purchasing of another vessel in her stead, be under the direction of the navy-board for the eastern department, by and with the advice of this Assembly, or the council of war of this state.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that divers persons have, without the permission of the authority of this state, undertaken to strip and carry off from the wrecks left by the enemy, within the harbors and bays of this state, the rigging, iron, and other things belonging thereto; and whereas, this Assembly did heretofore declare the same wrecks, &c., to belong and appertain to this state, and did appoint a committee to superintend and direct the mode of securing and preserving the said effects, for the benefit of this state,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the committee aforesaid, or the major part of them, be, and they are hereby, authorized, empowered and directed, to call before them any person or persons, who are suspected of taking from the wrecks aforesaid, any article or articles; or who are suspected of secreting any effects which did lately belong to the King of Great Britain, or to the said King's army or navy, which were left within this state, upon the evacuation of Rhode Island, and the other islands appertaining unto this state; and that, upon examination into the matter, if the person or persons who have possessed themselves in manner as aforesaid, of any of the said arti-

cles, shall refuse to deliver the same up, to and for the use aforesaid, then the said committee, or the major part of them be, and they are hereby, directed to apply unto the attorney general to have such offender or offenders prosecuted, in the same manner as though such offender or offenders had plundered or purloined from the citizens of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that four members only be chosen annually, to represent this state in the general Congress of the United States of America.

It is voted and resolved, that Caleb Gardner, Esq., of South Kingstown, be, and he is hereby, appointed to take and receive into his custody one-half of the Indian corn that was raised the last year on the Point Farm, so called, in South Kingstown, of those persons who raised the same, agreeably to their covenants; and that he keep possession thereof, until the further order of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of £5,000, lawful money, out of the general treasury, for purchasing three hundred and fifteen yards of linen cloth, ninety pair of stockings, and forty-five pair of linen breeches, for the officers belonging to this state's 'Continental battalions'; and that he account for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to write to His Excellency General Washington, and desire him to permit one of the Continental battalions raised by this state, to remain therein, for the protection thereof, the ensuing campaign.

It is voted and resolved, that His Honor the Deputy Governor be, and he is hereby, appointed to examine the treasury office, the secretary's office, and the proceedings of the council of war, to find out what sums of money have been received by any persons who have not accounted for the same; and that he report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee for leasing the real estates sequestered within this state, be, and they

are hereby, empowered to settle with Mr. Stephen Bowyer the deficiency in the stock leased to him, with the farm, lately belonging to George Rome, and which was afterwards leased to Charles Dyer; and that the said committee deduct the deficiency of the stock which was not delivered to the said Charles Dyer, from his lease.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said committee be empowered to adjust the rents and taxes of that part of the Point Farm (so called), in South Kingstown, which was improved by Caleb Gardner, Esq., the last year.

It is voted and resolved, that Caleb Gardner, Esek Hopkins, John Northup, Nathan Miller and Adam Comstock, Esqs., and Brigadier General Ezekiel Cornell, or the major part of them, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the circumstances of the barracks left by the British troops upon Rhode Island and Jamestown, in the year 1779; that they notify all persons who have any claims upon the materials with which they were built, to attend them at certain times and places, and make out their several claims; that the said committee be empowered to make distribution of the said materials to and amongst such persons as shall make satisfactory proof of their property therein; that the said committee reserve, until further orders, all such materials as do not appear to belong to individuals, but which may belong either to this state or to the United States; or if they are in a wasteful state, that they dispose of the same; and that they make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that Theodore Foster, Esq., and Mr. Isaac Senter be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draught a bill, for effectually providing, at the expense of the United States, for the delivery and safe keeping of all prisoners of war, taken by the citizens of the United States, and for obliging the keepers of the public jails to receive and deliver such prisoners, agreeably to the resolution of Congress, of January 13th last; and that they make report as soon as may be.

Whereas, the state house, at Newport, is at present in so ruinous a condition, that the General Assembly cannot be accommodated therein,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the session of this Assembly, to be holden on the first Wednesday of May next, for the general election of officers throughout the state, be and it is hereby, ordered to be holden at Providence.

It is voted and resolved, that the resolution of the council of war, in November last, empowering Brigadier General Ezekiel Cornell to call out the militia of the counties of Newport and Bristol, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

It is voted and resolved, that all the real estate, lately belonging to Thomas Hutchinson, Esq., heretofore governor of the state of the Massachusetts Bay, lying and being within this state, be, and the same is hereby, deemed, rendered and taken as forfeit to this state; the said Thomas Hutchinson having deserted from the United States of America, and joined himself to the King of Great Britain, an enemy thereof.

It is further voted and resolved, that all the real estate as aforesaid, be taken into possession by the sheriffs of the counties where the same may be, and rented by the committee already appointed for leasing the estates of absentees.

And it is further voted and resolved, that all the right, title, interest and property, which the said Thomas Hutchinson had in the real estates aforesaid, at the time of his withdrawing himself from these United States, vest in and belong to this state; any law heretofore to the contrary, notwithstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that Brigadier General Ezekiel Cornell be, and he is hereby, ordered and directed immediately to employ Captain Jeremiah Clarke, of the Pigot galley, his people, and such of the troops as he shall think proper, for taking up all kind of property left in the harbor of Newport by the enemy; that the same be stored as the said Ezekiel Cornell shall direct; and that respecting the

same, he advise with Caleb Gardner, Esq., and such others of the committee who were appointed to take care of said property as shall be present.

And as the time of service of the officers and men belonging to the said galley will expire on or about the 1st of April next,—

It is further voted and resolved, that the council of war, at their next meeting, take such measures respecting the same, as shall be most conducive to the public good.

Whereas, at the time of the evacuation of this state by the enemy, Samuel J. Thurston, of Newport, merchant, was indebted unto Stephen Deblois, who hath withdrawn himself with the enemy, in the sum of £355 3s. 1d., sterling money, of Great Britain; and whereas, by a resolution of the council of war, the attorney general was directed to demand the said money of the said Samuel J. Thurston, in order that the same might be proceeded against, as the property of the said Stephen Deblois, agreeably to the law of this state made and provided.

*Agreement between the Attorney General and Samuel J. Thurston, relative to Stephen Deblois.*

It is thereupon agreed upon by the said attorney general, in behalf of the state, and the said Samuel J. Thurston, that the said Samuel J. Thurston shall give bond to the general treasurer of the said state, with sufficient sureties, to the satisfaction of the said attorney general, for the payment of such sum of money (if any) as shall be adjudged by the superior court of judicature, &c., to be due from him, the said Samuel J. Thurston to the said Stephen Deblois, and liable to confiscation to and for the use of this state, in sterling money, gold or silver; and that no further proceedings be had against the said Samuel J. Thurston, until the informations which shall be filed before said court, against the property of the said Stephen Deblois, in the hands of the said Samuel J. Thurston, be determined.

And the agreement having been made in the presence of this Assembly, and duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, ratified and confirmed.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
James Carpenter, for the amount of the rent of his farm in Bristol, for the years 1777 and 1778.....	576 18 0
Nathaniel Pearce, Jr., for the use of his house by the justices of the court of judicature .....	12 00 0
Nathaniel Mumford, for his pay as state clothier.....	600 00 0
Hopkins Cooke, for his attendance upon the convention at East Greenwich, as secretary, &c. .....	18 00 0
Abraham Greene, for his attendance upon the convention at East Greenwich, as waiter .....	9 00 0
Jacob Greenman, a wounded soldier, in depreciation of his wages .....	100 00 0
John Reynolds, clothing agent, on account .....	13,000 00 0
Joseph Stanton, one of the committee for making inquiry into the conduct of the officers in the staff department.....	105 10 0
Othniel Gorton, one of the committee for making inquiry into the conduct of the officers in the staff department.....	84 00 0
Jonathan Salisbury, for iron work on the Kent county jail.....	7 10 0
William Potter, for his time and expenses in going to Providence, by order of the Assembly.....	21 18.6
William Potter, for enlisting twenty-eight soldiers into the Continental service.....	28 00 0
Abraham Greene, for his attendance as waiter, on the General Assembly..	59 04 0
William Channing, for his services, as clerk of the General Assembly .....	46 04 0
Arnold Stafford, for his attendance as waiter, on the General Assembly....	48 00 0

God save the United States of America.

*Col. Christopher Greene to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, 14th January, 1780.

Sir:—The uncommon severity of the weather has caused me to reduce the garrison to one hundred and eighty, officers included; as well artillery as infantry. This is as small a number as can do the necessary duty; our wood is within three or four days of being out, and being well assured there is not the least probability of being supplied from the main, I have this day ordered the racks belonging to Col. Wanton cut up and carried into the wood-yard, to be dealt out to the troops. As I am driven to taking this measure through absolute necessity, I do not doubt it will meet Your Excellency's approbation.

The day before yesterday, myself and nearly all the officers went up to the north end of the island with an intention of breaking the road, for the purpose of getting wood from Howland's Ferry; but found the snow so amazingly drifted, that it appears almost impracticable to be done, and scarcely any wood there at present; and the men so bare of shoes that are at Tiverton, that they are hardly fit to go out of the barracks to get wood for themselves. This is the case with upwards of forty I have sent there from my own regiment, and many of the others. I doubt not we shall soon be in a bad situation for flour, as our store of that article is small.

The hospital being here, has reduced our wood so fast, that not less than two or three cords a week has been expended there; I always conceived it very improper it should

be here, but there is no moving it, as the weather is. The poor inhabitants suffer here almost beyond description for want of wood, &c. I hope and trust the country will give them relief as soon as the river is open. If that don't happen soon, I fear many of them will unavoidably perish. The town council have been endeavoring to borrow wood from those best supplied with it, but with the ill success of getting not more than three or four cords.

General Cornell has not as yet returned; which I am certain must be from the roads' being impassable, as the business he was upon, would have brought him here (or a message from him), if practicable

I am exceedingly anxious to hear what the council of war have recommended, or resolved in regard to the troops and inhabitants of this town.

I am, with the greatest esteem,

Your Excellency's very humble servant,

C. GREENE.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress,  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

Philadelphia, January 15th, 1780.

Sir:—Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, two acts of Congress, of the 13th and 14th instant.

The former, containing the regulations adopted relating to prisoners of war, whether taken by the Continental troops, or captured by the arms of any particular state, either by sea or land.

Many difficulties have frequently occurred for want of such a general regulation, too numerous to be mentioned. It is proper to observe, that the first paragraph of the act recommending to the executive of the several states to transmit with all possible expedition to General Washington, the names and rank of all officers, and the number of privates belonging to the enemy, held as prisoners of war in each state; and the places they are at, &c., should be complied with as soon as possible by those states that have any number of prisoners.

The other act of the 14th instant, recommending to the legislatures of the several United States to make provision, where not already made, for conferring like privileges and immunities on the subjects of His Most Christian Majesty as are granted to the subjects and inhabitants of these United States by the recited \* \* \* \* \* in the treaty of amity and commerce \* \* \* \* \* no doubt be cheerfully complied with by each of the states.

His Most Christian Majesty, as soon as the treaty became known, published an edict, conformably to that article, exempting the subjects and inhabitants of these United States, from the *Droit d'Aubame*, &c.

I have the honor to be, with every sentiment of respect,

Your Excellency's humble servant,

SAMUEL HUNTINGTON, President.

To the Governor of Rhode Island,

*Gen. Varnum to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Philadelphia, 8th January, 1780.

Sir:—Were I to give you my sentiments at large upon the political situation of the United States, it would lead me into a labyrinth of deductions, too tedious for my present leisure, and too complicate for your amusement.

Without entering, therefore, into the infinity of circumstances which at present form the embarrassments of our system, it will be sufficient to observe, that the want of money and credit involve Congress in perplexities, which cannot be fully removed till the operations of new plans shall be equally felt throughout the Union. The want of a fixed consideration frustrates almost every measure; and the dull, inergetic mode of procedure, resulting from the long habits of insipid formality, render our efforts too feeble and dilatory to effect the greatest objects. Party intrigues have some share in our councils; but they are far from influencing in matters of general utility. Whenever they are attempted, they appear rather under the garb of expiring struggles, than in the expectation of success.

The army have been without pay for a long time; which, added to some other causes, produced on the 1st instant, a general mutiny in the Pennsylvania line. Two officers were killed and two wounded; about six privates were slain; and the insurrection is not yet quelled. Sir Henry Clinton sent an emissary among the malcontents with mighty promises of money, protection, &c., &c. But the lads, so far from being disaffected with the American cause, received his offers with indignation, and sent the spy, with his conductor, and a copy of the proposals, to Gen. Wayne. The president of this state is with them, and a committee from Congress in the vicinity. The militia of Jersey are in the field, and I trust the matter will terminate happily in a short time.

We have accounts this day that Arnold, with about sixteen hundred men, is in Chesapeake Bay, and that the inhabitants of Georgia have returned to their allegiance, by opposing the British government under Governor Wright.

We have been very successful to the southward, under General Sumpter and others; but our situation in that quarter is far from promising much to our advantage. This winter is big with serious events. Our resources are great; but we must exercise much wisdom and resolution, to manage them with propriety. Gen. Cornell is elected into the board of war, and therefore will not return this winter. Your tickets, &c., are safe.

I have the honor of being, sir, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

J. M. VARNUM.

To Governor Greene.

*General Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Morristown, Feb'y 20th, 1780.

Sir:—Your Excellency will have received, I make no doubt, a copy of an act of Congress of the 9th instant, ascertaining the quotas of non-commissioned officers and privates to be furnished by the respective states for the ensuing campaign, and directing all the men in the additional corps—the guards—artillery and horse, and the regimented artificers in the departments of the quartermaster general and commissary general of military stores, as well as those of the battalions in the state lines, whose terms of service do not expire before the last of September next, to be counted as part of the quotas of the states to which they respectively belong.

The quota of the state of Rhode Island is fixed at eight hundred and ten; and I have now the honor to enclose Your Excellency a special return of the non-commissioned officers and privates in Col. Angell's regiment, and of those belonging to the state in Jackson's, Sherburne's, Livingston's and Hazen's regiments, and Major Gibbs's corps of guards; designating in a particular manner, the proportion engaged for the war, and by monthly columns, the periods when and in what proportion the periods of the rest will expire.

Your Excellency will observe by the act, that those whose engagements expire before the last of September, as I have already taken the liberty to mention, are not to be counted as part of the eight hundred and ten; and therefore, according to the return enclosed, the deficiency to be raised is five hundred and sixty-seven; but Col. Greene's regiment is to be added to the return, of which I have not got a particular statement, which will make a material alteration in the deficiency to be raised. I have written to him to furnish Your Excellency with it without delay. If in any future returns I obtain, it should appear that there are any more men belonging to the state, I shall take the earliest occasion to communicate it, and their number.

I would observe, before I conclude, that this return bears the fullest number of men, under every description, that the state has in the corps which it comprehends; and they would most probably be found, if an actual inspection could take place, to fall a good deal short of the complement, as there is always a material difference between an army on paper and its real material strength. A comparative view between the total of an army, as borne upon every general return, and the column of present fit for duty, and the absentees that can be satisfactorily accounted for, demonstrates this beyond question.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at East Greenwich, on Thursday, the 23d day of March, 1780.*

The Hon. William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

Whereas, Thomas Tillinghast and Richard Fry, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, together with an account for their services, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly, relative to the rents of George Wightman's farm in North Kingstown.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed by the Honorable the General Assembly, a committee, to ascertain the rents of the farm in North Kingstown, lately belonging to Geo. Wightman, now in the possession of this state, do report:

That in obedience to our appointment, having met on the said farm, and taken into consideration the circumstances of the same, we are of opinion, that the said farm be rented to Mr. Holmes Wightman, agreeably to an act of this Assembly; that he pay therefor the sum of £36, lawful money, in produce, agreeably to the former regulating bill, for the year 1780; that he pay all state, town and Continental taxes, that shall be assessed on the said farm, during the said term; that he have liberty to plow, and plant with corn, a quantity of land, not exceeding fifteen acres; that whatever ground he shall sow with flax, oats, &c., shall be by him seeded at the rate of six pounds' weight of good clover seed per acre; that he shall commit no waste on the said farm, nor suffer it to be done by others; neither shall he sell or carry off of the said farm any hay or manure, except one load of salt hay, to be exchanged for rails; that whatever rails, &c., the said Holmes Wightman shall purchase, and carry on the said farm, he may have liberty to take off at the expiration of the said term; and that the rent aforementioned, be not considered as a precedent hereafter.

All which is submitted by—

THOMAS TILLINGHAST, } Committee.  
RICHARD FRY,

State of Rhode Island, Dr. to the above committee,

£ s. d.

For their time, horse-hire, &c., one day each, at £9.....18 00 0

And the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and hereby is, accepted; that the said Holmes Wightman be admitted as a tenant upon the said farm, upon the conditions mentioned in the said report, upon his giving security for the performance of the lease, on or before the 5th day of April next, to the acceptance of the said committee; that thereupon the said lease be considered as commencing on the 25th instant, and terminating on the 25th day of March, A. D. 1781; and that the account of the said Thos. Tillinghast and Richard Fry, amounting to £18, lawful money, be allowed and paid them, out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that William Briggs, Benjamin Briggs, James Arnold, Benjamin Cahoon and Joseph Cahoon, all of Coventry, in the county of Kent, be, and they are hereby, permitted to subscribe the test prescribed by law, before the town council of the said town of Coventry, or in open town meeting; and that thereupon they shall be admitted to all the rights and privileges of free born citizens of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that John Sayles, Jonathan Ar-

nold, Welcome Arnold, Rowse J. Helme, Thomas Holden and Nathan Miller, Esqs., and Mr. George Devol be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to devise ways and means for procuring the quota of supplies for the ensuing campaign, assigned this state by a resolution of Congress of the 25th day of February last; and that they make report thereon, as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that Archibald Crary, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed one of the committee to superintend the wrecks in the bays and harbors of this state, in the room of Adam Comstock, Esq., who declines serving.

Whereas, a number of boats, taken into the public service in the expedition to Rhode Island, in the year 1778, under the command of General Sullivan, have been lost and damaged, and the owners thereof have not received satisfaction for the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Nathan Miller and Theodore Foster, Esqs., and Mr. David Lawrence, or any two of them be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to take the affair into consideration, and to ascertain the damages; and that they make report to this Assembly, or the council of war, whichsoever shall first sit; who, upon approving the same, will recommend payment thereof to the deputy quartermaster general in this state.

Whereas, this Assembly, at the last session, in the act apportioning the tax of £180,000, to the several towns, directed the towns of Middletown and Jamestown to choose assessors and collectors; and in default thereof, empowered the council of war to appoint assessors, and the sheriff of the county of Newport to collect the same; and whereas, the said town of Middletown did seasonably appoint the proper officers to assess and collect the taxes,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the aforesaid paragraph of the said act, so far as it relates to the said town of Middletown, be, and the same is hereby, repealed; and that the officers so appointed, be empowered to proceed and

carry the said act into execution, so far as belongs to them respectively.

Whereas, John Sayles, Jonathan Arnold, Gilbert Devol, Welcome Arnold, Rowse J. Helme, Nathan Miller and Thos. Holden, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly, the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly, relative to the ways and means for procuring supplies for the Continental Army.*

The subscribers, being appointed a committee for considering ways and means to procure supplies for the Continental army the present year, report:

That, after considering the great expense and risk of importing the necessary articles, and the uncertainty of their being procured seasonably for the service, the state of the treasury, and other matters, your committee are of opinion, it will be most for the interest of the state to procure the supplies in the following manner, to wit:

That the farms not yet leased out, be rented for such quantities of beef as can be had for them, so far as those who hire will contract to pay in beef, and no disadvantage may arise to the state by demanding the beef in preference to other articles of produce; that the committee for leasing said farms, cause returns to be made of the quantities by them contracted for, and the time for its delivery; and the remainder be procured by purchase.

That the salt be procured by purchase, either imported or manufactured; that the rum be procured, either by purchasing molasses and having it distilled, or by purchasing Continental, French, or West India rum, which shall appear most for the interest of the state.

That, for procuring the necessary quantity of hay, the farm lately belonging to Messrs. Joseph and William Wantou, on the island of Prudence, be leased on shares for cutting, making, &c.; and that part which may belong to this state, be delivered at some convenient part of the main, as the committee for leasing sequestered estates shall agree: that as much of the hay now on Rhode Island and Conanicut, left by the enemy (and not belonging to any particular inhabitants of this state), be loaned to responsible persons, to be re-paid in hay of the same quality, the ensuing summer; and if any deficiency remain, it be supplied by purchase.

That a proper person be appointed to make the said purchases; and also a person appointed as storekeeper, and to take proper care of the hides and tallow, and make the necessary returns, &c.

JOHN SAYLES,  
JONATHAN ARNOLD,  
GILBERT DEVOL,  
WELCOME ARNOLD,

ROWSE J. HELME,  
NATHAN MILLER,  
THOMAS HOLDEN,  
Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is,

accepted; and that the same pass as a resolve of this Assembly.

The agent-clothier in this state having represented unto this Assembly, that he meets with great difficulty in procuring the clothing ordered by this Assembly at the last session, for the officers in the Continental army, considered as the quota of this state,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said agent-clothier be, and he is hereby, empowered to procure a sufficient quantity of linen to be manufactured to make ninety pair of breeches for the said officers; that Messrs. Sylvanus Sayles, Nathan Barber, Pardon Gray, Samuel Allen and Richard Mathewson, be a committee to procure two hundred pair of linen stockings for the said officers; that they procure the same to be made at as reasonable rates as they can, and lodged in the agent-clothier's store, as soon as possible; that the stockings be of a good quality, not whitened; that for the purpose aforesaid, the said Sylvanus Sayles be empowered to draw out of the general treasury \$2,000; the said Nathan Barber, \$2,000; the said Pardon Gray, \$2,000; the said Samuel Allen, \$600; and the said Richard Mathewson, \$1,400; and that this Assembly will make a reasonable allowance to the said committee for their services.

It is voted and resolved, that it be recommended to Caleb Gardner, Esq., commissary of hides and tallow, in this state, to deliver to Colonel Christopher Greene, one hundred and fifty-five pair of shoes, for the use of his battalion.

It is voted and resolved, that Pardon Gray, Esq., have the liberty of improving a small public building, standing on his farm, in Tiverton, which was used as a bake-house; he having engaged to deliver up the same when called for.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

[MARCH,

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Adam Comstock, one of the committee to superintend the wrecks .....	89 08 0
William Channing, for his services, as clerk of the General Assembly.....	70 16 0
Benjamin Bourne and Dr. Samuel Tenny, as committee for settling the soldiers' accounts for depreciation of wages .....	127 16 0
Arnold Stafford, for his attendance as waiter, on the General Assembly.....	22 00 0
Abraham Greene, for his attendance as waiter, on the General Assembly.....	13 00 0

God save the United States of America.

*General Varnum to William Ellery.*

Providence, March —, 1780.

Sir:—On the — day of —, A. D. 1779, the sloop Crawford, commanded by Capt. King, and belonging to subjects of the British King, was brought into the harbor of Newport, in the night season, by the said Capt. King, with a number of officers, and others on board. Said sloop was bound from St. Augustine to New York; but not knowing that the British garrison had evacuated the island, they came into the harbor aforesaid, through mistake.

The port being commanded by General Cornell, he had given previous orders that no vessel should be hailed, coming in from sea; but that none should go out, without a proper certificate or pass. At this time, Capt. Melally, in a privateer, was at anchor in the harbor; and upon the Crawford's coming in, hailed, and sent his boat on board her, as stated in the affidavits.

As she was totally under command of our guns, and within the limits, jurisdiction and presidium of this state; as all acquisitions in war, change property upon the footing of injuries received from the enemy, and should be appropriated in compensation thereof; as these injuries and compensations are relative to the public community, or sovereign state, only; and as Capt. Melally's power of making captures could not extend to any place, extra presidia of the guns, power and jurisdiction of a state, I labelled the said sloop Crawford in behalf of this state, and obtained a decree. Capt. Melally, however, claimed, and has taken an appeal to Congress.

I am, therefore, directed by the Honorable the General Assembly, to request you to act and do every thing necessary on their behalf, for obtaining a confirmation of said decree, either by conducting said defence yourself, or employing counsel, as you shall find necessary.

I am, sir, &c.,  
J. M. VARNUM.

To Wm. Ellery, Esq.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to Gen. Washington.*

Warwick, state of Rhode Island, &c., }  
March 8th, 1780. }

Sir:—I have the pleasure to inform you that the General Assembly in their session held on the fourth Monday of last month, in consequence of a late resolution of Congress apportioning to the United States their several quotas of men for the ensuing campaign, did pass a resolve that this state shall raise their quota, agreeably to said resolu-

tion, which is eight hundred and ten men, including those already raised in Colonel Greene and Angell's regiments; and for their encouragement to engage in the service, during the war, they are to receive \$300, as bounty, from this state, in addition to that given by the United States; and their wages to be made equal with silver, reckoning them to be the same as they were at the commencement of the war.

In consequence of which, I am requested by said Assembly to apply to Your Excellency for one of those regiments to be stationed within this state the ensuing campaign; and when you consider the former and present exertions of this state to complete the number of men apportioned to them; considering the smallness of it, and likewise its exposed situation, and that this proportion is much larger than what they have heretofore been called upon by Congress to raise in former campaigns, I flatter myself you will think this request reasonable.

I am, with very great esteem,  
Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

W. GREENE.

To His Excellency General Washington.

*George Clinton, Governor of New York, to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Albany, 11th March, 1780.

Sir:—The Legislature of this state have had under their consideration the act of Congress recommending it to several states to make proper provision for their respective troops serving in the army of the United States, to take place at the expiration of the war; but have deferred taking their final measures upon the subject till they are informed what provision has been made in the other states of the Union; being solicitous that this business may be conducted, particularly with respect to the allowances to be made to the troops, as nearly as possible upon one uniform system throughout the whole.

I have therefore to request the favor of Your Excellency to inform me what steps have been taken in the state over which you preside, in consequence of that recommendation; and whether any, and what provision has been made for the widows and children of such officers and soldiers as die while in service; and I shall be much obliged if I may be favored with your answer on this subject in season to lay it before the Legislature on the 1st of June next, to which time they stand adjourned.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect and esteem,  
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. CLINTON.

To His Excellency the Governor of Rhode Island.

*Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Morristown, March 26th, 1780.

Sir:—Your Excellency will have received, I presume, before this, a transcript of an act of Congress of the 25th of last month, calling on the several states for specific quantities of provision, rum and forage for the army; and directing the articles of supplies to be collected and deposited at such places in each of the states, as should be judged most convenient by me.

In the case of a defensive war like ours, which depends almost wholly upon the movements and operations of the enemy, it is difficult, if not impracticable, to fix on places of deposit for stores, which may not be rendered improper by subsequent events; and all we can do upon such occasions is, to collect them where it shall appear, from a comparative view of circumstances, that they will be probably secure, and most likely to facilitate the purposes intended. I have considered the point with respect to the supplies required of your state; and I beg leave to inform Your Excellency, that it appears to me they should be deposited at the following places, viz.:

Providence, eighteen thousand six hundred and twenty-one gallons of rum; as to the beef, the time and place of delivery, and the proportion from time to time, must of necessity be governed by the occasional requisitions of the commissary general; which must also be the case with respect to the salt, and its ultimate place of deposit; and as to the hay, the collection of it to depend on those of the quartermaster general, who will communicate his requisitions from time to time, as the probability of its being wanted, shall make it necessary.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Morristown, 28th March, 1780.

Sir:—I have been honored with Your Excellency's favor of the 8th of this month.

I would observe, with respect to stationing one of the regiments for the ensuing campaign in the state of Rhode Island, that at this time it is impossible to give Your Excellency any decisive answer. Whether it will, or will not be in our power, or whether it will be necessary, depends so much on the application the enemy may make of their force, the state of our own strength as opposed to theirs; and other circumstances of a contingent nature, that you will perceive that nothing certain can be promised on the subject.

I am persuaded of the exertions of your state, and that no means which it has, will be left untried to forward the views of Congress in recruiting the army to its full complement; and I would wish Your Excellency to believe that whatever application is made of the troops under my command, can only have the general good for its object.

I have the honor to be, with great regard,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Col. Christopher Greene to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, 10th April, 1780.

Sir:—Yesterday afternoon a flag arrived here from New York, with near one hundred naval prisoners on board. They have brought the small pox. I have ordered them to Coasters' Harbor, to be cleansed. The captain was directed in his orders, to go to Providence. I should not have allowed that, without your directions, had they not had the distemper; that, I suppose, must be a good reason for not admitting it at any

rate. If Your Excellency has any directions in this matter, I shall most cheerfully comply with them. I propose after cleansing the prisoners, to let them go where they please, after the commanding officer of the prisoners has receipted for them. The captain of the flag expects to wait for prisoners from Boston and Rutland, to carry back with him. I wish to know if any indulgence may be granted him, and if any, what. There has come in the flag, a British lieutenant, who had married in this town. His wife is dead, but he has a child left. He is desirous to come on shore to see it. I have agreed to let him come and be ashore a few hours; but not to be in private with any one, an officer to be constantly with him while on shore. I shall give no further indulgence unless I have your directions for it. The gentlemen in the flag inform me that four thousand troops sailed from New York for Charleston two days before they left that place; they came from there on Friday last.

I am, with the greatest esteem,

Your Excellency's very humble servant,

C. GREENE.

To Governor Greene.

*Col. Christopher Greene to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, 16th April, 1780.

Sir:—There have been several applications to me from women in the town, to go in the flag to New York. Among them, are some that are wives to persons who have left some interests here; they ask to carry wearing apparel, and some valuable household stuff. I understand their estates are liable to confiscation. I conceive there can be no objection to the women's going. But what they may take with them, I wish Your Excellency to say, as soon as convenient. Your advice shall be strictly attended to.

Capt. Freebody informs me there are several women left here belonging to the British army, which he offers to have ready to go in the flag; I will send them off in her, if agreeable to you, which I make not the least doubt of.

There are eighty prisoners of war in jail here; they were brought in last Tuesday, by Capt. Robinson, in a privateer ship, from Beverly, Massachusetts. They are detained here, while I hear from Massuran, commanding prisoners for the eastern department, which I expect as soon as to-morrow. Should you think proper to give any directions in regard to them, they will be duly executed.

I am, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

C. GREENE.

To Governor Greene.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly, for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Providence, on the first Wednesday in May, 1780.*

The following named officers, declared elected, were duly engaged:

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. William West, Deputy Governor.

ASSISTANTS.

Paul Mumford, Esq.,	Gideon Comstock, Esq.,
Thomas Wells, Esq.,	Job Randall, Esq.,
John Sayles, Esq.,	Peter Phillips, Esq.,
Jonathan Arnold, Esq.,	Enoch Haszard, Esq.,
James Arnold, Esq.,	William Richmond, Esq.

DEPUTIES.

*Newport.*  
Thomas Rumreill, Esq.,  
William Channing, Esq.,  
William Taggart, Esq.,  
Robert Elliott, Esq.,  
John Topham, Esq.

*Providence.*  
Welcome Arnold, Esq.,  
Darius Sessions, Esq.,  
Benoni Pearce, Esq.

*Portsmouth.*  
Metcalf Bowler, Esq.,  
Mr. David Giffard.

*Warwick.*

Othniel Gorton, Esq.,  
Thomas Holden, Esq.,  
Adam Comstock, Esq.,  
Mr. John Stafford.

*Westerly.*  
Joseph Noyes, Esq.,  
Mr. Samuel Bliven.

*North Kingstown.*  
Sylvester Gardner, Esq.  
*South Kingstown.*  
Samuel Babcock, Esq.,  
Rowse J. Helme, Esq.

## DEPUTIES.

*East Greenwich.*

Archibald Crary, Esq.,  
Thomas Tillinghast, Esq.

*Jamestown.*

Mr. John Weeden.

*Smithfield.*

Mr. Sylvanus Sayles,  
Mr. William Waterman.  
*Scituate.*

Mr. Christopher Potter,  
Mr. John Williams.

*Glocester.*

Asa Kimball, Esq.,  
Mr. Reuben Mason.

*Charlestown.*

Gideon Hoxsie, Esq.,  
Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq.

*West Greenwich.*

Thomas Gorton, Esq.,  
Jonathan Comstock, Esq.

*Coventry.*

Mr. William Burlingame,  
Ephraim Westcot, Esq.

*Exeter.*

John Chapman, Esq.

*Middletown.*

George Irish, Esq.

*Bristol.*

William Bradford, Esq.,  
Benjamin Bourne, Esq.

*Tiverton.*

Gilbert Devol, Esq.

*Little Compton.*

William Richmond, Esq.,  
Mr. William Ladd.

*Warren.*

Cromel Child, Esq.  
*Cumberland.*

Jeremiah Whipple, Esq.,  
Nathaniel Shepardson, Esq.  
*Richmond.*

Mr. Simeon Clarke,,  
Richard Bailey, Esq.  
*Cranston.*

Mr. Richard Searle,  
Mr. Isaac Senter.

*Hopkinton.*

Abel Tanner, Esq.,  
Mr. William Coon.

*Johnston.*

Caleb Harris, Esq.,  
Edward Fenner, Esq.

*North Providence.*

Esek Hopkins, Esq.,  
John Jenckes, Esq.

*Barrington.*

Edward Bosworth, Esq.,  
Samuel Allen, Esq.

The Hon. William Bradford, Esq., speaker; and Benjamin Bourne, Esq., clerk.

Henry Ward, Esq., secretary.  
William Channing, Esq., attorney general.  
Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer.

## DELEGATES TO REPRESENT THE STATE IN CONGRESS.

The Honorable Ezekiel Cornell, Esq.  
The Honorable John Collins, Esq.  
The Honorable Daniel Mowry, Esq.  
The Honorable James Mitchell Varnum, Esq.

## JUSTICES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

Shearjashub Bourn, Esq., chief; William Ellery, Esq., second; Paul Mumford, Esq., third; Peter Phillips, Esq., fourth; Gideon Comstock, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR NEWPORT COUNTY.

Benjamin Underwood, Esq., chief; William Richmond, Esq., second; William Taggart, Esq., third; Christopher Ellery, Esq., fourth; Walter Cooke, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR PROVIDENCE COUNTY.

Richard Steere, Esq., chief; Jeremiah Whipple, Esq., second; Job Randall, Esq., third; David Howell, Esq., fourth; Sylvanus Sayles, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR KINGS COUNTY.

Samuel Babcock, Esq., chief; John Northup, Esq., second; Carder Hazard, Esq., third; Joseph Hoxsie, Esq., fourth; Robert Brown, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR BRISTOL COUNTY.

Nathaniel Fales, Esq. chief; John Child, Esq., second; Joseph Reynolds, Esq., third; Josiah Humphrey, Esq., fourth; Samuel Allen, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR KENT COUNTY.

Philip Greene, Esq., chief; James Arnold, Esq., second; Benjamin Tillinghast, Esq., third; Thomas Tillinghast, Esq., fourth; Aaron Bowen, Esq., fifth.

## JUDGE OF THE COURT OF ADMIRALTY.

John Foster, Esq., judge of the court of admiralty, erected for the trial of prize causes, within and throughout the state.

## SHERIFFS OF THE SEVERAL COUNTIES.

<i>Newport county.</i>	<i>Bristol county.</i>
William Davis, Esq.	Richard Smith, Esq.
<i>Providence county.</i>	<i>Kent county.</i>
John Beverly, Esq.	Preserved Pearce, Esq.
<i>Kings county.</i>	
Beriah Brown, Esq.	

Robert Elliott, Esq., intendant of trade, for the port of Newport.

Henry Ward, Esq., intendant of trade, for the port of Providence.

## FIELD OFFICERS FOR THE STATE, IN THE SEVERAL COUNTIES.

James Mitchel Varnum, Esq., major general of the militia of this state.

Christopher Lippitt, Esq., brigadier general, of the militia, in the county of Providence.

Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq., brigadier general, of the militia, in the county of Kings.

Nathan Miller, Esq., brigadier general, of the militia, in the counties of Newport and Bristol.

Thomas Holden, Esq., brigadier general, of the militia, in the county of Kent.

Eleazer Jenckes, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Jesse Maxson, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Peter Church, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the regiment of militia, in the county of Bristol.

Thomas Tillinghast, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Kent.

Nathaniel Church, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Newport.

Edward Thompson, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Charles Dyer, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Archibald Kasson, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Kent.

Stephen Kimball, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the third regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Thomas Potter, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the third regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Chad Brown, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the fourth regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Charles Keen, Esq., major, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Lemuel Bailey, Esq., major, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Newport.

William Aldrich, Esq., major, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Joseph Knight, Esq., major, of the third regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Asa Kimball, Esq., major, of the fourth regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Joseph Pendleton, Esq., major, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Jonathan Bates, Jr., Esq., major, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Richard Bailey, Jr., Esq., major, of the third regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Peleg Heath, Esq., major, of the regiment of militia, in the county of Bristol.

Job Pearce, Esq., major, of the first regiment of militia, in the county of Kent.

Thomas Gorton, Esq., major, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Kent.

Amos Atwell, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the senior class regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Gideon Hoxsie, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant, of the senior class regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

George Peck, Esq., major, of the senior class regiment of militia, in the county of Providence.

Sylvester Gardner, Esq., major, of the senior class regiment of militia, in the county of Kings.

Jonathan Peck, Esq., major, of the senior class regiment of militia, in the county of Bristol.

Samuel Wall, Esq., major, of the senior class regiment of militia, in the county of Kent.

Archibald Crary, Esq., adjutant general, of the militia, in this state.

James Lovett, Esq., quartermaster general, of the militia, in this state.

Charles Holden, Esq., commissary general, of the militia, in this state.

Jonathan Arnold, Esq., director and purveyor general, of the militia, in this state.

Isaac Senter, Esq., surgeon and physician general, of the militia, in this state.

Henry Ward, Esq., public notary, in and throughout the state.

It is voted and resolved, that Darius Sessions, Esq., be,

and he is hereby, permitted to sign the test required by law.

Whereas, divers officers, belonging to the regiment of militia, in the towns of Scituate and Glocester, represented unto this Assembly, that the said battalion is at present very large; and that if it were divided into two battalions, it would be much more convenient to form and collect the men belonging to the same; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the militia and alarm men in the said towns of Scituate and Glocester be divided into two battalions; that the town of Scituate form one battalion; and the town of Glocester, the other.

Both houses being in a grand committee, proceeded upon the election.

Caleb Gardner, Esq., tenth assistant, in the room of Wm. Richmond, Esq., who declined.

Gideon Wanton, Esq., sixth assistant, in the room of Gideon Comstock, Esq., who declined.

Richard Fry, Esq., fifth assistant, in the room of James Arnold, Esq., who declined.

John Innis Clarke, Esq., first assistant, in the room of Paul Mumford, Esq., who declined.

In Council was read the following return of the officers chosen to command the United Company of Artillery, in the town of Providence, for the year ensuing, to wit:

Daniel Tillinghast, Esq., colonel; Levi Hall, Esq., lieutenant colonel; Robert Taylor, Esq., major; Joseph Smith, captain; and Gershom Jones, lieutenant.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said officers be, and they are hereby, approved.

The return of the officers chosen to command the company of Kingston Reds, for the year ensuing, was read in Council, and is as follows, to wit:

John Waite, captain; Nathan Taylor, first lieutenant;

Gardner Tefft, second lieutenant; and William Perkins, ensign.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said officers be, and they are hereby, approved.

Whereas, Colonel Daniel Tillinghast, of the United Company of Artillery, in the town of Providence, hath represented unto this Assembly, that some time past, he borrowed three four-pound cannon, belonging to the Columbus, a Continental sloop of war, for the use of the said company, on an alarm; for which cannon he is now called upon by the navy board for the eastern department,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Major William Perkins, who hath the care of the public stores in this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver the said cannon to the said Daniel Tillinghast, that they may be forwarded, agreeably to the order of the said navy board.

The return of the officers chosen to command the company of Kentish Guards, for the year ensuing, was read in Council, and is as follows, to wit:

Richard Fry, captain; William Arnold, first lieutenant; Charles Greene, second lieutenant; and Job Greene, ensign.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said officers be, and they are hereby, approved.

Whereas, His Excellency General Washington, by his order to Major William Perkins, for removing the artillery and military stores from this state, to Springfield, in the commonwealth of Massachusetts, hath directed him to leave one thousand pounds' weight of powder, for the use of state; and that quantity being considered short of what appears necessary for the use of the state,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that it be recommended to the said William Perkins, to leave fifteen hundred weight more than the said quantity, in good musket-

cartridges, and in cartridges best suited to the cannon belonging to this state, each in a due proportion; and to cause the powder in Whipple Hall, saving the quantity to be left as aforesaid, to be immediately removed by the Continental teams.

And as great difficulties will attend, at this season, the procuring a sufficient number of teams necessary for the removal of the whole of the artillery and heavy stores at once,—

It is further recommended to the said Wm. Perkins, that the artillery and heavy stores be removed by land as soon after the removal of the powder as can be effected by the Continental teams, or such others as are willing to engage in that service.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee for settling the depreciation of the wages of the officers and soldiers in this state's Continental battalion, be, and they are hereby, directed not to charge the bounties or gratuities made to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers by the towns, or by individuals; any thing in the act passed at the last December session, directing the mode of the said settlement, to the contrary, notwithstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that the moneys granted to the officers and soldiers belonging to this state, of Col. Henry Sherburne's regiment, in June last, be considered as a conclusive settlement, for the depreciation on one-quarter part of their wages, for the time for which the said settlement was made; and that the committee of the state for ascertaining the depreciation, adjust their accounts accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that Welcome Arnold, Esq., receive of John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier for this state, the sum of £5,673 6s., lawful money, which is due to this state, for a quantity of clothing, being the property of this state, that the said John Reynolds received of Messrs. Ar-

nold and Clarke; and that the said Welcome Arnold pay the same into the general treasury.

Whereas, the state house and jail, in the county of Newport, are in a ruinous condition, and must soon be rendered useless, unless they be repaired,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that William Davis, Esq., sheriff of the said county, cause such repairs to be made on the said state house, as may prevent it from further ruin; that he put the said jail in such a state as to render it comfortable for the keeper and prisoners; that for the said purposes, the said William Davis be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of £700, lawful money, out of the general treasury; and that he lay an account of the expense, thereof, before this Assembly, as soon as may be.

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly, to examine and settle the accounts of John Reynolds, the Agent-Clothier to the State.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee, by the Honorable the General Assembly, to examine and settle the accounts of John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier to this state; and having gone through the said business, by carefully comparing all the charges and credits, with the several vouchers for the same, do report:

That there is a balance due to the said John Reynolds, of £8,736 2d., lawful money; also, that there is a balance due to this state, from the officers of the army, for clothing received of the said John Reynolds, in the years 1778 and 1779, of £896 2s. 10d., lawful money, as appears by the annexed list; and that there now remains in the store belonging to the state, the following articles of clothing, to wit:

Thirty-two coats, three waistcoats, thirty-eight pair of shoes, ninety-seven pair of stockings, one hundred and five frocks, thirty-three pair of linen overalls, thirty yards and one-quarter of Irish linen, four yards of coarse sheeting, four linen handkerchiefs, sixteen yards of baize, in two pieces; thirteen knapsacks, eight blankets, thirty-four hats, two pound of thread, and one gross of shoe-binding and quality.

N. B. The sum of £2,836 13s., lawful money, must be deducted out of the whole amount of the above account, when it is charged the Continent; the same being for sundry goods sold Messrs. Welcome Arnold and John I. Clarke, by order of the General Assembly.

JOHN JENCKES,  
WELCOME ARNOLD. } Committee.

May 5, A. D. 1780.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is

accepted; that the said account be allowed; and that the balance due thereon, of £8,756 2d., lawful money, be paid the said John Reynolds, out of the general treasury.

Whereas, divers inhabitants of the town of Providence preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that a certain cross street, in the said town, known by the name of Union street, leading from Broad street to Westminster street, is very incommodious to the said inhabitants, for want of the said street being paved; and thereupon they prayed this Assembly to grant them a lottery, for raising the sum of \$30,000, to defray the expense of paving the said street; and that Messrs. Elijah Bacon, Joseph Hoyle, Robert Taylor and Thomas Truman, may be appointed managers of the said lottery; they being accountable to the town treasurer of the said town, and paying him whatever overplus may remain in their hands after the work be finished, for the use of the said town; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, granted; that the said Elijah Bacon, Joseph Hoyle, Robert Taylor and Thomas Truman, give bond in the usual manner, for the faithful performance of their trust; and that no expense accrue to the state.

Whereas, Mr. Jonathan Carpenter, who hired of this state the Point Judith farm (so called), hath failed to give security for performing the conditions of the lease,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the committee for leasing the state's farms, lease the same again upon the best terms they can.

The return of the officers chosen to command the Gloucester Light Infantry Company, for the year ensuing, was read in Council, and is as follows, to wit:

Timothy Wilmarth, captain; Martin Smith, first lieutenant; Elijah Armstrong, second lieutenant; and Ezekiel Brown, ensign.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said officers be, and they are hereby, approved.

The return of officers chosen to command the Providence Grenadier Company, for the year ensuing, was read in Council, and is as follows, to wit:

John Whipple, captain; Aaron Mann, first lieutenant; Sam'l Clarke, second lieutenant; and John Cozzens, ensign.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said officers be, and they are hereby, approved.

This Assembly taking into consideration the conduct of Brigadier General Ezekiel Cornell, and of Colonel Robert Elliott, and of Colonel John Topham, and fully sensible of the great fidelity and ability with which they have served,—

Do therefore vote and resolve, and it is voted and resolved, that the thanks of this Assembly be given to the said Ezekiel Cornell, Robert Elliott and John Topham.

It is voted and resolved, that the historical print of the heroic deed of William Tell, which laid the foundation of Swiss liberty and the Helvetic Union, received from the Most Honorable the Congress of the United States, through the hands of Henry Marchant, Esq., be delivered to the secretary; and that he procure the same to be neatly framed and glazed, and hung up in the representatives' room of the state house, in the town of Providence.

It is voted and resolved, that Major James Sumner be employed to repair the roof of the court house in the town of Providence; that the lead on the said roof be taken off, and carefully preserved, by the said James Sumner, until the further orders of this Assembly; and that the said James Sumner be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of £1,000, lawful money, out of the general treasury, for repairing said house.

Whereas, Mrs. Olive Goffe, of Smithfield, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that her late

husband, Jacob Goffe, in August last was killed, while at work in the state's powder mill in Johnston, by the same taking fire, whereby she is left a widow, with five small children, destitute of the comforts of life, and of relations, who are able to afford her any assistance ; and thereupon she prayed this Assembly to grant her an allowance, for the support of herself and children ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Olive Goffe be, and she is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of £600, lawful money, out of the general treasury, for the purposes aforesaid.

Whereas, Mrs. Ruth Watson, preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that all the property of her husband, John Watson, hath been taken into possession, by the authority of this state ; and that the necessities of life being very dear, and taxes very high, she is involved in a large debt ; and thereupon she prayed this Assembly to permit her to sell so much of her household furniture as will pay her just debts ; and that she may have liberty to go to New York, to her said husband, in the next flag, with her daughter and negro girl, and to take with her such of her furniture as may be thought proper ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that all the furniture lately belonging to the said John Watson, be delivered by the sheriff of the county of Newport, to the said Ruth Watson ; and that she be permitted to sell the same, or carry it, together with her daughter and the said negro girl, to New York ; to which place she hath liberty to proceed, in the next flag, under the direction of Colonel Greene.

Whereas, Mrs. Elizabeth Wyatt preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that her husband, James Wyatt, now residing in New York, hath requested that she, with her family, would come to New York ; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to permit her, with her two children

and a servant, to go to New York in the next flag, and to take with her such of her furniture as may be thought proper; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Elizabeth Wyatt be, and she is hereby, permitted to go to New York, in the next flag, with her two children, servant girl and furniture, under the direction of Colonel Greene.

It is voted and resolved, that the recognizance of Stephen Potter, of South Kingstown, be further continued to the next session of this Assembly; and that the said Stephen Potter then make his appearance.

It is voted and resolved, that Esquire Howe, captain-lieutenant; James Crosswell, lieutenant; and Peleg Rice, gunner, in Captain Garzia's Company of Artillery, be, and they are hereby, discharged the service, at their own request.

It is voted and resolved, that Captain John Carr, Captain Philip Traffan, Lieutenant John Miller, Lieutenant James Miller and fifteen soldiers, being all who remain in Colonel John Topham's regiment be, and they are hereby, discharged the service, at their own request.

This Assembly, fully sensible of the many and great benefits which this state hath derived from those the exertions of eminent abilities, and the unremitting attention to the momentous objects of their appointment, with which the conduct of William Ellery and Henry Marchant, Esqs., as delegates from this state to Congress, hath been distinguished,—

Do therefore vote and resolve, and it is voted and resolved, that the thanks of this Assembly be given to those gentlemen.

Whereas, Mr. William Bradford, of Providence, mariner, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that a sunken vessel and its appurtenances, lying near the island of Prudence, hath been taken into possession for the use of this state; which vessel was captured by the said William Bradford and others, in the month of August, A. D.

1778; and thereupon he prayed this Assembly to cause justice to be done; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, referred to the committee appointed to take care of wrecks, &c., who are hereby directed to examine the matters set forth theirein, and to report to this Assembly, at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Jahleel Mumford be, and he is hereby, appointed to post up the accounts of this state against the Continent, in the book provided for that purpose, as far as the said accounts have been audited by Mr. Nathaniel Mumford, deceased, in order that a copy of the same may be completed, and sent forward to our delegates in Congress.

A petition of the trustees and fellows of the college, in the town of Providence, to the Most Honorable Continental Congress, representing, that the college edifice hath been for several years improved by the army, either as a barrack or as an hospital, and is thereby so injured as to render it totally unfit for the purposes for which it was originally designed; and praying Congress to order and direct that the damages sustained, while the said building was so appropriated to the public service, may be fully repaired, at the public expense, having been laid before this Assembly, and duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that it appears unto this Assembly, that the representations made in said petition, are true.

It is further voted and resolved, that the delegates for this state in Congress, be, and they are hereby, directed to present and enforce the same; and, as it is proposed to open the college soon, that they request the Congress to enter into an early consideration thereof.

It is voted and resolved, that the operation of an act of this Assembly, making the Continental and state paper currency a legal tender, for discharging debts, mortgages and

contracts, entered into before the commencement of the present war, be, and the same is hereby, suspended until the fourth day of the next session of this Assembly, so far as respects debts, mortgages and contracts, entered into before the 19th day of April, A. D. 1775; and all other debts, mortgages and contracts entered into at any time for silver or gold only.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee of the state, for settling the depreciation of the pay of the officers and soldiers belonging to this state's Continental battalion, calculate the depreciation from the 1st of January, A. D. 1777.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, by Col. Christopher Greene, that the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of his regiment, are in want of frocks and overalls; which, if supplied timely, will be a considerable saving of their winter clothing, and much more comfortable for the troops in the summer months; and that John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier, not having orders to deliver clothing for the said regiment, cannot furnish those articles so soon as may be necessary,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Colonel Archibald Crary receive of the present keeper of this state's store, and deliver to the said Christopher Greene, one hundred and five frocks, and thirty-three pair of overalls, which are now in the said store, to be applied to the aforesaid purpose; he giving his receipt therefor, and engaging to return a like quantity as soon as he obtains orders to draw for his regiment, from the agent-clothier.

It is voted and resolved, that a tax be levied upon the inhabitants of this state, for the collecting and paying into the general treasury, monthly, this state's proportion of the \$15,000,000, agreeably to the resolution of Congress, for the months of June, July and August next; that the said tax be levied upon the several towns, in the same proportion as the last tax which was ordered by this Assembly; and that a bill be draughted accordingly.

Both houses being joined in a grand committee, chose the persons whose names follow, to compose the council of war, to wit:

*Members of the Council of War Chosen.*

The Honorable William Greene, Esq.; the Honorable William West, Esq.; John I. Clarke, John Northup, Esek Hopkins, John Jenckes, Joseph Stanton, Sylvester Gardner, Robert Elliott, William Ladd, Thomas Rumreill, Nathan Miller, Benjamin Bourne and Thomas Tillinghast, Esq.

Whereas, Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Olney presented unto this Assembly, a statement of the account of Colonel Israel Angell's regiment, for bounties, as follows, to wit:

*Col. Israel Angell's Statement for Bounties, &c.*

Dr. State of Rhode Island, in account with Col. Israel Angell's Regiment.

1780.	£ s. d.
April 30.	To a bounty of \$300, granted by a resolution of the General Assembly, passed at the last December session, to each non-commissioned officer and soldier of the said regiment, who had then re-enlisted, or should thereafter re-enlist, during the war.
	Two hundred and twelve were, at the passing of the said resolution, enlisted for the war; fifty-four have since re-enlisted, as appears by the returns to April the 4th, A. D. 1780.
	Two hundred and sixty-six total for the war, at £90 each..

1780. Creditor.

April 30.	By cash paid Major Simeon Thayer, 22d of December, A. D. 1779, per certificate from the general treasurer, towards paying the bounties.....	15,000 00 0
	By cash paid Lieutenant Colonel Olney, which he paid sundry soldiers towards their bounties, as appears by the accounts settled with the state.....	420 00 0
		<hr/> £15,420 00 0
	Balance due to the regiment.....	8,520 00 0
		<hr/> £23,940 00 0

Errors excepted,

Per JEREMIAH OLNEY, Lieut. Col

And the auditor having made the following report thereon, to wit:

Providence, April 30, A. D. 1780.

Examined the above account, and find the numbers as above specified to agree with the returns, the account right cast, and the sum of £8,520, lawful money, due to the non-commissioned officers and privates of Colonel Israel Angell's regiment.

WILLIAM MUMFORD, Auditor.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said account be allowed; and that the balance due thereon, of £8,520, lawful money, be paid to the said Jeremiah Olney, out of the general treasury, to and for the use of the said regiment.

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing, Darius Sessions, Henry Marchant, Charles Holden and Benjamin Bourne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draught a bill, agreeably to the resolution of Congress, recommending to the several states to call in their proportions of the Continental currency, for the issuing of new bills, establishing proper funds for the same, and revising the tender laws; and that they make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

The petition of Mrs. Jane Andrews, of Newport, preferred unto this Assembly, praying that she may have liberty to go to New York to her husband, in the next flag, and carry with her five small children, the young woman who lives with her, and her household furniture, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Jane Andrews, with her family and household furniture, be permitted to go to New York, under the direction of Col. Greene.

An Act for assessing and apportioning a rate or tax of £180,000, lawful money, upon the inhabitants of this state.

[See printed Schedule for this act.]

A subsistence abstract; exhibited unto this Assembly, for a company of militia, under the command of Lieutenant William Southworth, belonging to Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Nathaniel Church's regiment, who did duty from the 1st of September to the 26th of October, A. D. 1779, being duly considered, together with the auditor's report thereon,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount of the said abstract, being £849 6s. 8d., lawful money, be allowed and paid the said William Southworth, out of the general treasury, to discharge the same.

It is voted and resolved, that Colonel Topham be, and he is hereby, empowered to receive out of the general treasury, the sum of £1,000, lawful money, to purchase necessary refreshments for the military hospital in this state; and that he account for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that two suitable vessels be chartered and fitted for sea, as soon as may be, in order to proceed to the West Indies, for a quantity of salt, for the use of this state; that William Taggart, Esq., charter and fit one of the said vessels, and Archibald Crary, Esq., the other; that they apply to the council of war for an order on the general treasury, for such moneys as may be necessary for the purpose aforesaid; and that so much of the hard money in the treasury as shall be thought necessary by the council of war, be sent in the said vessels, for purchasing the salt in the West Indies; for which the said William Taggart and Archibald Crary are to be accountable.

Provided nevertheless, that the hard money shall not be sent in the said vessels, if suitable and sufficient cargoes can be timely purchased with Continental bills, so that the vessels be not detained.

It is voted and resolved, that Ezekiel Cornell, Esq., one of the delegates from this state in Congress, be, and he is hereby, empowered to receive out of the general treasury,

the sum of £4,000, lawful money ; and that he be accountable for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that a state tax, of £180,000, lawful money, be assessed and levied upon the inhabitants of this state ; that it be assessed upon the several towns in the same proportions, and be collected and paid into the general treasury at the same times, as the Continental tax assessed at the present session ; and that an act be drawn accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins, Esq., receive £150 ; John Northup, Esq., £150 ; Thomas Rumreill, Esq., £300 ; and Thomas Tillinghast, Esq., £300, out of the general treasury, in part for their services and expenses, in settling the depreciation of the wages of the officers and soldiers ; and that they be accountable for the same.

Whereas, Messrs. John Gladding, James Noonan, William Gladding, William Lindsey, Samuel Oxx and Jonathan Glover, inhabitants and freemen of the town of Bristol, preferred a petition, unto this Assembly, representing that when the enemy took possession of the island of Rhode Island, they removed back into the country, with their families, for safety ; that since the evacuation of said island by the British troops, they have returned to the said town of Bristol ; and that, by reason of their removal from the said town, they have not had an opportunity to sign the test, required by law, though they have ever manifested their zeal in defence of their country ; and praying that they may be permitted to sign the said test, that they may enjoy the liberties and privileges of freemen ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be granted : and that the said John Gladding, James Noonan, Wm. Gladding, William Lindsey, Samuel Oxx and Jonathan Glover be, and they are hereby, permitted to sign the said test, before the town council of the said town of Bristol.

Whereas, many inconveniences have arisen to the people, as they come of age, in this state, and to those beyond the

sea, or absent in the service of the United States, who have been obliged to sign the test required by law, before the town councils of their respective towns, in order to qualify them to vote in town meeting,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that for the future, such persons, being inhabitants of any town in this state, be permitted to sign the said test, in open town meeting, in the towns where they respectively belong; any law to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Provided, nevertheless, that such towns shall first pass a vote, permitting them to subscribe the same, and not otherwise.

Whereas, there are now on the farm in possession of Benoni Albro, lately belonging to Thomas Moffatt, in North Kingstown, one water-wheel, cog-wheel, and other parts of a wheat mill, which are not of any use to the state, and are daily decaying,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Peter Phillips and John Northup, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the circumstances thereof, and dispose of the same to the best advantage for the state; and that they make report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Daniel Mason, of Newport, and Mr. Thomas Arnold (son of Philip), of Warwick, be, and they are hereby, permitted to subscribe the test, heretofore ordered to be subscribed by the inhabitants of this state, before the town councils of their respective towns.

It is voted and resolved, that William Colwell and David Colwell, both of Gloucester, be, and they are hereby, permitted to subscribe the test, heretofore ordered to be subscribed by the inhabitants of this state, before the town council of the said town of Gloucester.

It is voted and resolved, that commissions be issued to the delegates, chosen at the present election, to represent

this state in Congress, similar to those made the last year,  
*mutatis mutandis.*

An Act for assessing and apportioning a rate or tax of £180,000, [lawful money, upon the inhabitants of this state.

[See printed Schedule for this act.]

It is voted and resolved, that £600, lawful money, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, unto William Richmond, Esq., for services performed in the army, under the command of General Sullivan and General Gates.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to make sale of the shops in Providence, lately belonging to Jonathan Simpson and Gilbert Deblois, absentees, and now in possession of this state, which shops are standing on land of Mr. Nathan Angell's; that the time of sale be published in the Providence Gazette; and that the said Esek Hopkins place the money arising therefrom, in the general treasury.

Whereas, the multiplicity of public business within this state, hath rendered it necessary to appoint a council of war, to act and transact business in the recess of the General Assembly; and whereas, it is expedient that the powers vested in the said body, should be ascertained and pointed out, to the intent that the said council may not exceed the powers limited to, and and vested in, them,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the said council of war, or any five of them, shall, and may, in the recess of the General Assembly, make, ordain, constitute and appoint all such orders, decrees, regulations and commands of an executive nature, whether civil or military, as require an immediate attention, and which do not interfere with, or counteract any known and established laws of this state, in as full, ample and effectual manner, as this General Assembly could or ought, were they actually sitting.

Provided always, that this act shall not extend, or be construed to extend, to vest in the said council of war any powers of legislation whatever; and that one or more members shall attend from three of the counties in the state, to make a quorum.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the sum of £30, lawful money, per diem, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, unto each of the aforesaid members, who shall necessarily attend upon the said business.

Voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Lieut. Benjamin L. Peckham, balance due for recruiting service.....	260 00 04
Lieut. Colonel Jeremiah Olney, " " " "	510 00 00
Ezra Chace, in consideration of wounds received.....	300 00 00
Esau Thayer, " " " while doing duty in Col. Til-	
linghast's company .....	700 00 00
Uriah Stone, in consideration of wounds received.....	60 00 00
Capt. Jeremiah Clarke, for abstracts of pay and subsistence of the officers	
and men of the Pigot galley.....	767 11 10
Maj. Daniel Box, pay and subsistence for his brigade.....	210 00 60
Henry Rice, for carrying despatches .....	25 10 00
Samuel Ward, on account of depreciation from account rendered.....	16 15 11
Col. John Holden, on account of recruiting service.....	27 00 00
Col. Israel Angell, for subsistence of his regiment .....	27,206 15 00
Lieut. William Southworth, for expenses and abstract.....	101 02 00
William Compton, for attendance on the General Assembly, as waiter .....	45 00 00
Daniel Branch, for attendance on committee.....	171 00 00
William Channing, for his services, as clerk of the lower house .....	25 00 00
Benjamin Bourne, for attendance on the General Assembly .....	150 00 00
William Mumford, for his attendance on the General Assembly, as deputy	
secretary.....	176 12 00

God save the United States of America.

*Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Morristown, May 23d, 1780.

Sir:—I have the pleasure to inform Your Excellency, in confidence, that a French fleet may be soon looked for on our coast. The place where they will arrive is not certainly known, but they may probably come to Rhode Island.

The Chevalier Fayole is charged with some dispatches for the Admiral, which it is of great importance he should receive as soon as possible after his arrival. The Chevalier is also entrusted to procure a sufficient number of skillful and faithful pilots to go on board the fleet the moment they may arrive; and that there may not be the least possible delay in the business, he is to have a proper number of suitable boats in readiness, in which they may proceed.

Your Excellency, I am persuaded, will be impressed at the first instant with the importance of this event; and I take the liberty to recommend Mr. Fayole to your good offices, and to request that you will assist him in making the earliest provision of the boats and pilots of the description I have mentioned; and in every other matter where he may require it.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect and esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Washington to the Committee of Co-operation of Rhode Island.*

Morristown, 25th May, 1780.

Gentlemen:—I have attentively considered the circular letter to the different states which you did me the honor to communicate for my perusal; and I am happy to find that my ideas perfectly correspond with those of the committee.

The view they have given of our situation, is just, full and explicit. The measures they have recommended, are well adapted to the emergency, and of indispensable necessity. I very freely give it as my opinion, that unless they are carried into execution in the fullest extent, and with the greatest decision and rapidity, it will be impossible for us to undertake the intended co-operation with any reasonable prospect of success.

The consequences you have well delineated. The succor designed for our benefit will prove a serious misfortune; and instead of rescuing us from the embarrassments we experience, and from the danger with which we are threatened, will in all probability precipitate our ruin. Drained and weakened as we already are, the exertions we shall make, though they may be too imperfect to secure success, will at any rate be such as to leave us in a state of relaxation and debility, from which it will be difficult, if not impracticable, to recover. The country exhausted; the people dispirited; the consequence and reputation of these states in Europe sunk; our friends chagrined and disengaged; our enemies deriving new credit, new confidence and new resources.

We have not, nor ought we to wish, an alternative. The court of France has done so much for us, that we must make a decisive effort on our part; our situation demands it; 'tis expected. We have the means to success, without some unforeseen accident, and it only remains to employ them. But the conjuncture requires all our wisdom and all our energy. Such is the present state of this country, that the utmost exertion of

its resources, though equal, is not more than equal to the object; and our measures must be so taken as to call them into immediate and full effect.

There is only one thing I should have been happy the committee had thought proper to take up on a larger scale. I mean the supply of men by draft. Instead of completing the deficiencies of the quotas assigned by the resolution of Congress, of that 9th of February last, it would, in my apprehension, be of the greatest importance, that the respective states should fill their battalions to their complement of five hundred and four, rank and file. Considering the different possible dispositions of the enemy, and the different possible operations on our own part, we ought not to have less than twenty thousand Continental efficient troops. The whole number of battalions from New Hampshire to Pennsylvania inclusive, if complete, would not amount to this force. The total would be twenty-three thousand one hundred and eighty-four, rank and file; from which the customary deductions being made, there will not remain more than about eighteen thousand fit for the service of the field. To this may be added, the remainder of the sixteen regiments, amounting to about one thousand.

Unless the principal part of our force be composed of men regularly organized, and on the continuance of whose service we can rely, nothing decisive can be attempted. The militia are too precarious a dependence to justify such an attempt, where they form a material part of the plan. Militia cannot have the necessary habit, nor the consistency either for an assault or a siege. In employing them essentially, we should run a risk of being abandoned in the most critical moments. The expense and the consumption of provisions and stores (which we are bound by every motive to overcome), will be very considerably increased. As we should not be able to keep the same body in the field during the whole campaign, we should, a great part of the time, have a double set of men to pay and feed. Those in actual service; those on the march to relieve them, or returning home, when relieved. The operations of husbandry will suffer in proportion.

The mode by a draft, is, I am persuaded, the only efficacious one to obtain the men; it appears to me certain that it is the only one to obtain them in time; nor can the period you have appointed for bringing them into the field, be delayed without defeating the object. I have little doubt that at any time, and much less at the present juncture, the powers of government exerted with confidence, will be equal to the purpose of drafting. The hopes of the people elevated by the prospect before them, will induce a cheerful compliance with this, and all the other measures of vigor, which have been recommended, and which the exigency requires.

Notwithstanding the extension of the draft, which I have now taken the liberty to advise, occasional aid of militia will be still wanted, but in much less number in this case, than in the other.

I have entire confidence that the respective legislatures will be fully impressed with the importance and delicacy of the present juncture, and will second the view of the committee, by the most speedy and vigorous efforts.

With many sentiments of respect and esteem,

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honorable the Committee of Co-operation.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at South Kingstown, on the second Monday in June, 1780.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. William West, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that all fees, fines and forfeitures, be, and they are hereby, raised forty for one, from the establishment of them, in the year 1774.

It is voted and resolved, that Tibbits Hopkins, now confined in the jail of East Greenwich, and who was heretofore made a prisoner of war, with a party of the enemy, be exchanged for some person, an inhabitant of this state, who may now be a prisoner with the enemy; that it be recommended to Col. Greene to give the necessary directions for effecting the said exchange as soon as the service will admit of it; and that in the mean time he cause the said Tibbits Hopkins to be removed to the jail in Providence, and be supplied as a prisoner of war, out of the commissary's store, agreeably to a resolution of Congress, in such case made and provided.

The account of Mr. Samuel Pitcher, keeper of the jail in the county of Providence, exhibited unto this Assembly, for the maintenance of divers poor prisoners, committed at the suit of the Governor and Company, amounting to £504, lawful money, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of £288, lawful money, of the said account, and no more, be allowed and paid the said Samuel Pitcher, out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the council of war, at their next meeting, settle and adjust the account of Mr. Nathan Angell against the state, for the ground-rent of the confis-

cated shops standing upon his land, lately sold by order of this Assembly.

Whereas, Esek Hopkins, Esq., presented unto this Assembly, the following report, and account for his services, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly,  
to sell certain Shops in the Town of Providence.*

The subscriber being appointed by the General Assembly to make sale of two shops, standing on the land of Mr. Nathan Angell, which shops heretofore belonged to Gilbert Deblois and Jonathan Simpson, absentees, reports:

That he hath sold the same at public vendue; one of them to Messrs. Clark and Nightingale, for the sum of £4,600, lawful money, and paid the same into the general treasury; and the other to Mr. Nathan Angell, for the sum of £2,600, lawful money, for which he hath taken the said Nathan Angell's note, and deposited it with the general treasurer, for the use of this state.

All which is submitted, by—

ESEK HOPKINS.

State of Rhode Island,	Dr.
To Esek Hopkins, for his services in performing said business.....	£90 00 00

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and hereby is, accepted: and that the account of the said Esek Hopkins, amounting to £90, lawful money, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury.

Whereas, William Taggart, Esq., was, by a resolution passed at the last session of this Assembly, appointed to charter a vessel to proceed on a voyage to the West Indies, for a load of salt; and the said William Taggart having now represented that he hath chartered two-third parts of a brigantine, for that purpose, and requested a grant of money, to enable him to carry the said resolution into execution,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said William Taggart be, and he is hereby, empowered to receive \$265 66, in gold and silver; and £1,800, lawful Continental money, out of the general treasury; and that he be accountable for the same.

Upon the account of William Davis, Esq., sheriff of New-

port county, exhibited unto this Assembly, for the expenses of repairing the state house and jail in the said county, the following report was made, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly,  
relative to William Davis's Account.*

The subscriber, being appointed by the General Assembly, to examine the account of William Davis, Esq., reports :

That the vouchers for the several charges have been produced, and that the same is right cast. Which is submitted, by—

METCALF BOWLER.

South Kingstown, June 14, A. D. 1780.

And the said account being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the balance due thereon, of £875 15s., lawful money, be paid the said William Davis out of the general treasury.

Whereas, William Peckham, of Middletown, in the county of Newport, yeoman, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that John Clarke, formerly of Newport, in the county aforesaid, physician, deceased, did, by his last will, bearing date the 20th day of April, A. D. 1676, give and devise unto William Weeden, Philip Smith and Richard Baily, and to their assigns forever, a certain farm, lying in Middletown, aforesaid, and appropriated the rents and profits thereof to certain charitable uses in the said last will mentioned; and further thereby declared, that the same should be, and remain, unto the said William Weeden, Philip Smith and Richard Baily, and their assigns, to be chosen as followeth, that is to say: that when it should happen that either of those three should decease, the two surviving should make choice of another in the room of him so deceased; and that the persons so chosen, to make good the number three, and their assigns, from time to time chosen and succeeding, should be the assigns of the said William Weeden, Philip Smith and Richard Baily, for the said charitable purposes.

And whereas, the said William Peckham further repre-

sented, that by a regular succession and appointment, he, with Josias Lyndon, Esq., and Henry Peckham, housewright, both late of Newport, aforesaid, deceased, were in the year 1775, the assigns, agreeably to the last will of the said John Clarke; that the said Josias Lyndon removed to Warren, and in the year 1778 the said Henry Peckham died, the British troops being then in possession of Rhode Island, and all communication cut off with Warren, he, the said William Peckham, appointed Benjamin Hall, of said Newport, cordwainer, an assign, in the room and place of the said Henry Peckham, deceased, fully purposing to inform the said Josias Lyndon thereof, and to request his concurrence therein; but that the British troops having kept possession of Rhode Island until his death, he was prevented from so doing; and thereupon the said William Peckham prayed this Assembly, that the appointment of the said Benjamin Hall, and the further doings of the said Benjamin Hall, and him, the said William Peckham, may be declared to be valid, as though no lache or interruption had happened; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer thereof be granted; and that the said Wm. Peckham's appointment of the said Benj. Hall, as assign, as aforesaid, shall be as good and valid, and to all intents and purposes as effectual, as if the said Josias Lyndon had acquiesced and concurred therein.

It is voted and resolved, that Jonathan Arnold, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed one of the committee, in the room of Darius Sessions, Esq., who is absent, to draught a bill agreeably to the resolution of Congress, for calling in the circulating Continental bills, for emitting new ones, and establishing proper funds for their redemption.

Whereas, Congress have called upon this state for two thousand bushels of salt, for the use of the army of the United States, and this Assembly having received information that a British vessel with salt, hath been lately cap-

tured, and brought into the harbor of Newport, by His Most Christian Majesty's frigate the Hermione, commanded by the Chevalier De la Touche,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that William Taggart, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to apply to the captain of the said frigate for the said salt, and purchase the same in behalf of the state; and that he make report to this Assembly, or in the recess thereof, to the council of war.

At the request of Colonel Christopher Greene,—

It is voted and resolved, that Solomon Southwick, Esq., commissary of issues in this state, be, and he is hereby, empowered to receive of Capt. Samuel Carr one hundred and fifty bushels of Indian corn (being part of the rent of the farm in Exeter, which he hires of the state), for the use of the Continental troops in this state; that the same be delivered by the said Samuel Carr, at Bissell's mill; and that it be considered as part of the supplies of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of three thousand Continental dollars, received by Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general, of Col. Christopher Greene, be charged to the said Ephraim Bowen, Jr., the same having been allowed to the said Christopher Greene in his account, settled at this session.

Whereas, Mr. James Chace, of Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that he is the owner and proprietor of a certain farm in Little Compton, which at the time the enemy took possession of Rhode Island, was in the care of his son, James Chace, Jr.; that in consequence of the said James Chace's being confined by the enemy on the said island, this Assembly did direct that the said estate should be taken possession of, and that the rents and profit thereof have been received to the use of this state; and thereupon he prayed this Assembly to restore him the said estate, and order that he may receive the rents and profits thereof, and that he may be allowed

the amount of all past rents; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted; that the said estate be restored to the said James Chace; that the present lease be assigned to him; and that the rents heretofore received by the state, be paid to him.

It is voted and resolved, that Metcalf Bowler and Benoni Pearce, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, empowered to draw the sum of \$2,000 out of the general treasury, for purchasing paper, and defraying the other necessary expenses of emitting the paper money, ordered by this Assembly, at this present session.

It is further voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointend to superintend the press; and that the said bills be printed under his inspection.

It is voted and resolved, that those persons who were employed at the last February session to procure a number of stockings for the state, be, and they are hereby, directed to deliver them at the clothier's store, immediately.

It is voted and resolved, that the Honorable William West, Esq., Enoch Hazard, Benoni Pearce, Nathan Miller and Thomas Holden, Esqs., or the major part of them, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to audit the accounts of Thomas Wells, Stephen Potter and Gideon Comstock, Esqs., justices of the superior court, for their time, services and expenses, relative to the trials of certain estates against which informations have been filed by order of this Assembly.

Whereas, there are a number of the inhabitants of this state, in captivity at Halifax, in Nova Scotia,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that it be recommended to the commanding officer of the troops in this state, to permit a flag to proceed there, with a number of prisoners, to be exchanged for the said captives, as soon as the public service will admit.

An Act for emitting the sum of £20,000, and for redeeming  
the same.

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the sum of £20,000 be emitted, in paper bills, as soon as possible, upon the credit of this state, of the the following tenor, to wit:

*Form of Bills of Credit.*

“ State of Rhode Island, &c.

The possessor of this bill (funded on real estate), shall receive of the general treasurer of this state —————, lawful money, on or before the 1st day of January, A. D. 1781, in silver or gold, at and after the rate of one Spanish silver milled dollar for six shillings of gold, equivalent, together with interest at the rate of five per centum, per annum, from the date hereof; agreeably to an act of the General Assembly of said state, passed at South Kingstown, June session, A. D. 1780.”

It is further enacted, that the said bills be of the following denominations, to wit:

2,000 of forty shillings,	-	-	-	£4,000
4,000 “ thirty “	-	-	-	6,000
4,000 “ twenty “	-	-	-	4,000
4,000 “ ten “	-	-	-	2,000
3,000 “ six “	-	-	-	900
4,000 “ four “	-	-	-	800
4,600 “ three “	-	-	-	690
6,100 “ two “	-	-	-	610
10,000 “ one “	-	-	-	500
8,000 “ ninepence,	-	-	-	300
8,000 “ sixpence,	-	-	-	200
<hr/>				<hr/>
57,700				£20,000

It is voted and resolved, that John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of £7,000, lawful money, out of the general treasury; and that he account for the same.

It is further enacted, that the bills so emitted be immediately lodged in the general treasury.

It is further enacted, that the whole of the said emission, which shall remain outstanding and in circulation on the 1st day of January next, be then exchanged by the general treasurer for silver or gold, that is to say: each dollar, or six shillings, of said bills, to be redeemed with one Spanish milled dollar, or other silver or gold equivalent, with interest upon the same, at and after the rate of five per centum per annum.

And that the redemption of the said bills be rendered certain,—

It is further enacted, that a tax of £5,000 be assessed upon the inhabitants of this state, and collected and paid into the general treasury, in the said bills, or in silver or gold equivalent, in four months from the 1st day of July next; that all the bills so to be collected, be taken out of circulation, and burnt; and that the following farms, with their appurtenances, be pledged and funded for the credit and redemption of the said bills, to wit:

The state's farm on Point Judith, in South Kingstown, consisting of about twelve hundred acres.

The state's farm in North Kingstown, late Geo. Rome's, consisting of about five hundred acres.

The state's farm in North Kingstown, late Thomas Mofatt's, consisting of about two hundred acres.

The state's farm in Exeter, late Samuel Boone's, consisting of about six hundred acres; and—

The state's farm in Bristol, late —— Borland's, consisting of about two hundred and fifty acres.

It is further enacted, that the farms, aforesaid, with their appurtenances, be sold on or before the 1st day of December next, in such manner as shall be hereafter di-

rected, and shall be entered upon the 25th day of March, following; that the money for which the same shall be sold, be paid in silver or gold, or the bills before mentioned, and in no other currency whatever; and that upon the sale of the said estates, and the payment of the purchase money, as aforesaid, the general treasurer shall make and execute unto the purchaser or purchasers, a good and authentic deed or deeds of the same, in behalf of this state, in fee simple, with warranty.

It is further enacted, that the moneys arising from the sales aforesaid, be lodged in the general treasury, for the redemption of the bills, aforesaid; and the remainder, if any, shall be at the disposal of the General Assembly.

And notwithstanding the estates, aforesaid, exceed in value the sum of £20,000, in silver or gold, or bills, aforesaid; nevertheless, if there should be any deficiency after the sales, aforesaid, and not a sufficient sum of silver or gold in the treasury for the redemption of the whole of the said bills, the General Assembly will cause the same to be placed in the treasury, before the said 1st day of January, either by the sale of other real estates, or otherwise, as shall be most expedient.

It is further enacted, that the bills, aforesaid, shall be a lawful tender for all silver or gold contracts whatever, in as full and effectual manner as if the silver or gold was especially tendered.

It is further enacted, that Metcalf Bowler, Benoni Pearce, Caleb Harris, Adam Comstock and Thomas Rumreill, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee for causing the said bills to be printed, and for numbering and signing the same; that all the bills of, and under the denomination of one shilling, be signed by one of the committee only; that all the other bills be signed by two of the committee; and that the committee be allowed the sixth part of one per cent. for numbering and signing the said bills.

Whereas, it has been recommended to the legislatures of

the different states, by a resolution of Congress of the 27th day of May last, to pass laws for the punishment of such persons as shall encourage desertions from the fleets and armies of any foreign power, who shall prosecute the war in America, in conjunction with these United States, and for recovering such deserters as shall conceal themselves among the inhabitants; and whereas, this Assembly entertains the highest sense of gratitude for the generous assistance afforded these United States, by our illustrious allies, and esteem it their duty and interest to afford every assistance and support to any power, who shall prosecute the war in America, in conjunction with these United States,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that any person or persons who shall promote or encourage desertion, or harbor or conceal any deserter, from the fleets or armies of any power who shall prosecute the war in America, in conjunction with these states, shall be subject to the like fines and penalties as are, by the law, now in force in this state, which passed at the last December session, inflicted on persons for promoting or encouraging desertion, or harboring or concealing deserters, from the army of the United States.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that any person or persons, who shall apprehend and secure any deserter from any of the fleets or armies of any power, who shall, in conjunction with these states, prosecute the war in America, shall be entitled to the same reward as is by the aforesaid act, passed at the last December session, allowed to persons apprehending and securing deserters from the army of the United States.

Whereas, His Excellency General Washington, by his letter to His Excellency the Governor, of the 25th day of last month, hath requested this state to give their assistance to Dr. Craick, assistant director-general of the hospitals of the Continental army, who hath, in consequence of instructions from General Washington, come into this state, to provide hospitals and refreshments for the sick which may

be on board His Most Christian Majesty's fleet, now expected in this state;\* and this Assembly taking into consideration the said request, and earnestly desiring to afford every possible comfort and assistance to the sick and distressed of the illustrious ally of these United States,—

Do vote and resolve, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general, to cause the buildings on the farm in Bristol, lately belonging to William Vassal, Esq., to be immediately put in proper repair for the said purpose; and that he cause such additional buildings to be erected on the said farm, and on the school farm adjoining thereto, as shall, with the buildings first mentioned, be sufficient to contain the numbers, and answer the purposes pointed out in the said instructions to Dr. Craick.

That John I. Clark, Jonathan Arnold and Benjamin Bourne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to advise with the said Ephraim Bowen, Jr., respecting the repairs necessary for the said buildings, and the most suitable places to erect new ones; and that in case the number of sick shall exceed the provision made for them, the said committee advise the said Ephraim Bowen, Jr.,

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\* *Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Morristown, May 25th, 1780.

Sir:—Doctor Craick, assistant director general of the hospitals in our army, will have the honor of delivering this letter to Your Excellency.

This gentleman comes to Providence to provide hospitals and such refreshments as may be wanted in the first instance for the sick, which may be on board the fleet of His Most Christian Majesty, when it arrives. The Doctor will consult with Your Excellency about the houses which will be necessary and proper upon the occasion; and on the best mode of obtaining the refreshments which he may think it essential to provide. He will stand very materially in need of your good offices in this interesting business; and in a particular manner will want the assistance of the state, either to advance him money or their credit, for laying in the requisite supplies. This, I am persuaded, they will most readily give him, from an earnest desire to afford every possible comfort and accommodation to the sick of our good and great ally, who have the strongest claim to our attention and generosity.

Your Excellency will be pleased to have the accounts of the disbursements incurred on the occasion, kept in a clear and particular manner, which will be punctually paid by Mons. Corne, commissary at war to His Most Christian Majesty; or Mr. Damour, his consul in gold or silver, or in bills of exchange on France, on their arrival at Providence. One of those gentlemen will be there in a short time.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

where and what other buildings shall be taken up for their accommodation and comfort; and for the more speedily effecting the aforesaid purposes,—

It is hereby recommended to the said Ephraim Bowen, Jr., to cause such barracks as may be at Tiverton, and at the north end of Rhode Island, to be removed to the said farms; and also to make use of a large frame in Tiverton, near Col. Pardon Gray's.

It is further voted and resolved, that Dr. Jonathan Arnold and Dr. Isaac Senter, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to advise with the said Dr. Craick, respecting the necessary means and measures to be pursued to prevent any contagious disorders, which may prevail amongst the said sick, from being communicated to the inhabitants of this state.

And for enabling the said Ephraim Bowen, Jr., to carry the aforesaid purposes into execution, and to supply the said Dr. Craick, agreeably to the said request,—

It is further voted and resolved, that he be, and hereby is, empowered to draw the sum of £10,000, lawful money, out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the report of the committee, appointed to settle the accounts, and ascertain the sums due to the commissioned, non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, belonging to this state's Continental battalions, be, and the same is hereby, received; that this Assembly will take speedy and effectual measures to pay such sums as the necessities of the said officers and men may require; that when the committee of Congress shall have arranged and completed the settlement with the army, the aforesaid accounts shall be brought to the same standard, and the balances due thereon, shall be then paid, or good securities given to the said officers and men, or to their legal representatives, for payment, when the ability of the state will admit.

It is voted and resolved, that it be recommended to John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier, to furnish two hundred

and forty-seven pair of overalls immediately, agreeably to the request of Lieutenant Colonel Ward, for the use of Col. Green's regiment; and that the said John Reynolds be empowered to draw out of the general treasury the sum of £24,000, lawful money, to purchase the said overalls, and other clothing, for the troops ordered to be raised at this session.

It is voted and resolved, that John I. Clark, James M. Varnum, Welcome Arnold and Benj. Bourne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to revise the act erecting and establishing a maritime court within this state; and that they make report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of £3,000, lawful money, ordered at this present session to be paid to Joseph Button, a wounded soldier, out of the general treasury, be paid unto the order of the town council of the town of Hopkinton, and to no other person; to be applied, under the direction of the said town council, to the support of the said Joseph Button.

An Act for enlarging the jurisdiction of justices of the peace, in civil actions.

[See printed Schedule for this act.]

Whereas, His Excellency General Washington, hath, by his letter of the 3d instant,\* certified to this Assembly, that

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\* *Col. Israel Angell to Gen. Washington.*

Morristown, 3d June, 1780.

Dear Sir:—The following officers were appointed in the regiment under my command, by the Hon. Maj. Generals Gates and Sullivan, viz.:

John Hubbard, Lieutenant, appointed May 18th, 1779.

Joseph Wheaton, Lieutenant, appointed 1st September, 1779.

John M. Greene, ensign, appointed 1st March, 1779.

John Rogers, ensign; William Pratt, do.; Joseph Mashury, do.; Jeremiah Greenman, do., appointed 1st May, 1779.

The above gentlemen have not yet got their commissions. Application has been made to the state for the certificates of their appointments; but as the houses of Assembly were not consulted on the subject, did not incline to give them until Your Excellency's approbation on the matter was known, whether that number of officers was necessary in the regiment. There are now eighteen officers in the regiment, exclusive of the field officers; four of whom, are in the staff department; which makes it in-

the following officers are necessary in this state's Continental battalion, commanded by Col. Israel Angell, and recommended that they hold their appointments from the times annexed to their names respectively, to wit:

John Hubbart, lieutenant, May 18, A. D. 1779.

Joseph Wheaton, lieutenant, September 1, A. D. 1779.

John Morly Greene, ensign, March 1, A. D. 1779.

John Rogers, William Pratt, Joseph Mashury and Jeremiah Greenman, ensigns, May 1, A. D. 1779.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the aforesaid gentlemen be, and they are hereby, appointed to the offices set against their respective names; and that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to transmit a copy of this resolution to the board of war, that commissions may be issued for the said officers.

It is voted and resolved, that an act heretofore passed by this Assembly, prohibiting vendues, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

It is voted and resolved, that so much of the act of this Assembly, that makes the paper bills heretofore emitted by this state, and the paper bills emitted by Congress, a lawful tender in all cases whatever, so far as the same respects debts contracted before the 5th day of May, A. D. 1775, and con-

dispensable that they should continue. Therefore beg the General would be pleased to signify the same to the Governor and Council of the state, by which means, the certificates would be produced, and the commissions obtained from the board of war.

I am, with due respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,  
ISRAEL ANGELL.

To His Excellency General Washington.

*Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Morristown, June 3d, 1780.

Sir.—I beg to inform Your Excellency that it appears to me, the officers mentioned in the enclosed letter, from Col. Angell, are necessary; and, if agreeable to Your Excellency and the Council, you will be pleased to transmit it to the Honorable the Board of War, that they may issue the commissions required.

I have the honor to be, with great respect and esteem,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,  
GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

tracts made since that period, where gold or silver are specially promised ; and all future contracts, where gold or silver, or the bills ordered to be emitted by this Assembly at the present session, funded on real estates, are specially promised ; be, and the same is hereby, suspended, until the rising of this Assembly, at the next October session.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer deliver to Benoni Pearce and Metcalf Bowler, Esqs., the escutcheons, &c., necessary to strike off the paper bills ordered to be emitted at this session.

Whereas, the large and frequent draughts on the treasury of this state, for the supplying of the paymaster, quartermaster, clothier and commissary in this state, with money to enable them to pay and supply the troops with articles in the several staff departments (all of which were indispensably necessary to their convenience and subsistence), have totally exhausted the said treasury, and many orders for the purposes aforesaid, must be unpaid, which will greatly impede the public measures at this important conjuncture,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to retain in the treasury of this state, the tax of £60,000, lawful money, ordered to be assessed for the month of May last ; the act heretofore passed, ordering the said tax to be paid into the Continental loan-office, notwithstanding.

The petition of William Wall and Joseph Brown, Esqs., and Mr. Jeremiah Clarke, preferred unto this Assembly, representing that they are the purchasers of the wrecks in the harbor of Newport ; and that the Piggot galley, which is now useless to the state, is a suitable vessel to take on board and preserve what may be saved from the said wrecks, and praying this Assembly that they may have the use of the said vessel for that purpose ; being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins and Joseph Nightingale, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to let out the said vessel, in behalf of this state.

unto the purchasers of the said wrecks; that the said committee appraise the said vessel, her tackle and appurtenances; that she be at the risk of the petitioners; and that they report to this Assembly, as soon as may be.

Whereas, it is indispensably necessary, upon the arrival of the fleet and army of His Most Christian Majesty, now expected, that the necessary supplies should be sold them upon the same terms as to the inhabitants of the market towns in this state; and that the strictest attention should be paid, to prevent their being imposed upon in their purchases, by persons furnishing the markets in this state,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the Honorable Jabez Bowen, Esq. and John Innis Clarke, Esq., be, and they are hereby, appointed inspectors of the market in the town of Providence; Caleb Gardner, Robert Elliott and John Topham, Esqs., inspectors of the market in the town of Newport; Benjamin Bourne and Jonathan Russell, Esqs., inspectors of the market for the town of Bristol; and Sylvester Child, Esq., for the town of Warren; who are hereby empowered to settle and adjust all difficulties which may arise in their respective towns between the sellers and buyers, on account of the prices and qualities of any articles exposed to sale, and to prosecute any persons who shall be guilty of regrating, forestalling, or of any impositions in their dealings, as the law directs.

And it is further voted and resolved, that in case it shall be necessary to make similar appointments, for the aforesaid purposes, in any other towns than those already named, His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, fully empowered to make the same.

It is voted and resolved, that Enoch Haszard, Esek Hopkins and Samuel Babcock, Esqs., or the major part of them, be, and they are hereby, empowered to examine the account of Mr. Hazard Champlin, collector of taxes for the town of South Kingstown, for the taxes assessed upon the Point Farm, so called, in the said town; and that they report to this Assembly, at the next session, the taxes assessed

upon the said farm which remain unpaid, and who are the proper persons to pay the same.

The petition of Mrs. Penelope Bisset, of Newport, wife of the Rev. George Bisset, preferred unto this Assembly, representing that she was left by her said husband with one child, at the time the British troops evacuated Rhode Island; that soon after, her household furniture was ordered by the state to be seized; and that she is now destitute of the means of supporting herself and her child, and praying this Assembly to grant her permission to go with her child to her said husband at New York, and to carry with her, or sell the said household furniture; being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Penelope Bisset, with her child, be permitted to go to New York, under the direction of the commanding officer the Continental troops in this state; and that she be permitted to dispose of her household furniture as she shall think fit.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of £510 7s., lawf<sup>n</sup>l money, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, to William Borden, Esq., collector of taxes for the town of Newport, for the taxes assessed upon divers confiscated estates, lying in the said town.

It is voted and resolved, that the report of the committee, appointed to draught an address to the several towns in this state, on the importance of the present conjuncture, be received; and that fair copies of the same be immediately made out and signed by His Excellency the Governor, and the speaker of the lower house; and that they be transmitted by the deputies to their respective towns.

Both houses being joined in a grand committee, chose the gentlemen whose names are set down in the subsequent list, to the offices ascribed to them respectively, to wit:

Caleb Aldrich, Esq., fifth justice of the inferior court of common pleas, and general sessions of the peace, within and for the county of Providence.

*Officers to command the several Trained Bands, or Companies of Militia within the State.*

First battalion in the county of Providence. Artillery Company—Edward Spalding, captain-lieutenant; John Carpenter, lieutenant.

Troop of Horse—John Mumford, captain; Ezekiel Searle, lieutenant; Solomon Thornton (son of Daniel), cornet.

Providence. First company—Jos. Allen, captain; Isaac Bowen, lieutenant; Jeremiah Jenckes, ensign.

Second company—Peter Taylor, captain; Bennett Wheeler, lieutenant; Grindal Reynolds, ensign.

Fourth company—Joseph Fuller, captain; Joseph Snow, Jr., lieutenant; Lemuel Field, ensign.

Cranston. First company—Anthony Potter, captain; Thomas Congdon, lieutenant; George Colvin, ensign.

Second company—Frederick Williams, captain; Nathan'l Carpenter, lieutenant; John Harris, ensign.

Third company—Joseph Potter, captain; Nehemiah Burlingame, lieutenant; Moses Lippitt, ensign.

Caleb Sheldon, captain; and John Vial, ensign, of the Senior Class Company, of the towns of Johnston and North Providence.

Johnston. First company—Dan'l Sprague, captain; John Alverson, lieutenant; Arnold Fenner, ensign.

Second company—Laban Waterman, captain; Ezekiel Olney, lieutenant; Pardon Sheldon, ensign.

North Providence Company—Esek Jenckes, lieutenant; Benjamin Coman, ensign.

First Battalion in the county of Kent. Artillery Company. Oliver Gardner, captain-lieutenant; Oliver Corey, lieutenant.

Troop of Horse—Stukely Hudson, captain; Benjamin Tillinghast, lieutenant; Joseph Arnold, cornet.

Senior Class Company—Robert Rhodes, captain; Hopkins Cooke, lieutenant; Philip Wightman, ensign.

Warwick. First company—Job Randall, captain; James Arnold, Jr., lieutenant; John Waterman, Jr., ensign.

Second company—Squire Millard, captain; James Jerauld, lieutenant; John Stafford, ensign.

Third company—Thomas Rice (son of Thomas), captain; Anthony Holden, lieutenant; Stukely Stafford, Jr., ensign.

East Greenwich. First company—Micah Whitmarsh, captain; David Andrews, lieutenant; Edward Weeden, ensign.

Second company—Allen Johnson, captain; Mumford Davis, lieutenant; Josiah Jones, ensign.

Gorton Jerauld, surgeon.

Second Battalion in the county of Providence—Peleg Arnold, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, in the room of Edward Thompson, Esq., who declined.

Smithfield. Senior Class Company—Job Mowry, captain; Abraham Windsor, Jr., lieutenant; Sylvanus Bucklin, ensign.

First company—Benjamin Ballou, captain; Robert Bennett, lieutenant; Daniel Sayles, ensign.

Second company—Ebenezer Trask, captain; Simeon Ballou, lieutenant; Eli Read, ensign.

Third company—Daniel Mowry, 4th, captain; Benjamin Sheldon, lieutenant; John Carpenter, ensign.

Second Battalion in the county of Kings. North Kingstown—First company—Samuel Dyer, captain; William Davis, lieutenant; Stukely Hill, ensign.

Second company—Lawrence Pearce, captain; Henry Northup (son of Joseph), lieutenant; Bowen Card, ensign.

Third company—John Brown, Jr., captain; Beriah Waite, lieutenant; Joshua Brown, ensign.

Exeter. First Company—Robert Reynolds, Jr., captain; William Potter, lieutenant; James Bates, ensign.

Second company—George Wilcox, captain; Asa Gates, ensign.

Third company—Walter Clarke, captain; David Herrenden, lieutenant; Samuel Bissell, ensign.

Samuel Watson, surgeon.

Second Battalion in the county of Kent. Artillery company—Eleazer Burlingame, lieutenant.

Troop of Horse—Isaac Johnson, captain; Jonathan Niles, lieutenant; Silas Westcott, cornet.

West Greenwich. Senior Class Company—Joseph Hopkins, captain; Benjamin Johnson, lieutenant; Randall Spencer, ensign.

First company—Samuel Hopkins, captain; Joseph Niles, lieutenant; Joseph Dolliver, ensign.

Second company—Benjamin Gorton, captain; Caleb Greene, lieutenant; Joseph Weaver, ensign.

Third company—Joseph Draper, captain; Joseph James, lieutenant; Judiah Aylesworth, Jr., ensign.

Coventry. Senior Class Company—Abel Bennett, captain; Job Greene, lieutenant; Jonathan Nichols, ensign.

First company—Joseph Brayton, captain; Ichabod Potter, lieutenant; Stephen Burlingame, ensign.

Second company—William Roy, captain; Lowry Jenckes, lieutenant; Oliver Wickes, ensign.

Third company—Langford Weaver, captain; Samuel Greene (son of Nathaniel), lieutenant; Samuel Whaley, ensign.

Fourth company—Asaph Bennett, captain; Joseph Rice, lieutenant; Moses Blanchard, ensign.

Jared Dyer, surgeon.

Third Battalion in the county of Providence. Artillery Company—Isaac Medbury, Jr., captain-lieutenant; Job Fisk, Jr., lieutenant.

Scituate. First company—Jonathan Knight, captain; Angell Sweet, lieutenant; John Potter, ensign.

Second company—Simeon Herrenden, captain; George Dorrance, lieutenant; James Tyler, ensign.

Third company—Coomer Smith, captain; Jabel Angell, lieutenant; Gideon Harris, ensign.

Fourth company—Iсааe Hopkins, captain; Isaac Paine, lieutenant; Philip Walker, ensign.

Fifth company—Samuel Wilbur, captain; Thomas Field, lieutenant; William Potter, ensign.

Sixth company—William Howard, captain; James Wells, lieutenant; Samuel Perkins, ensign.

Caleb Fisk, surgeon; John Wilkinson, surgeon's mate.

Third Battalion in the county of Kings. Artillery Company—Henry Gardner, captain-lieutenant; Thomas Gardner, lieutenant.

Troop of Horse—John Gardner, captain; Simeon Clarke, lieutenant; Barber Peckham, cornet.

South Kingstown. Senior Class Company—William Taylor, captain; Gardner William Mumford, lieutenant; James Cotterel, ensign.

First company—Timothy Locke, Jr., captain; Daniel Tefft, lieutenant, William Steadman, ensign.

Second company—Paris Gardner, captain; James Reynolds, lieutenant; Elisha Potter (son of Benjamin), ensign.

Third company—Simon Ray Mumford, captain; Joseph Congdon, lieutenant; William Peckham, ensign.

Fourth company—Daniel Sherman, captain; Jeremiah Knowles, lieutenant; Allen Gardner, ensign.

Richmond. Senior Class Company—Thomas Tefft, captain; John Woodmansie, lieutenant; Samuel Clarke, ensign.

First company—Joshua Webb, captain; Asa Clarke, lieutenant; Joseph Enos, ensign.

Second company—John Clarke, captain; Pardon Tefft, lieutenant; Samuel Stanton, ensign.

William Chace, surgeon.

Fourth Battalion in the county of Providence. Artil-

lery Company—Thomas Wood, captain-lieutenant; Angell Sweet, lieutenant.

Troop of Horse—David Burlingame, captain; Amos Winsor, lieutenant; Anthony Dyer, cornet.

Senior Class Company—John Wells, captain; Thomas Collins, lieutenant; Benjamin Tourtelot, ensign.

Glocester. First company—Benajah Whipple, captain; Peter Lewis, lieutenant; Henry Wheeler, ensign.

Second company—Samuel May, captain; James Colwell, lieutenant; Arnold Smith, ensign.

Third company—Nathaniel Wade, captain; Zebulon Wade, lieutenant; John Pray, ensign.

Fourth company—Stephen Winsor, captain; Isaac Ross, lieutenant; Jeremiah Irons, Jr., ensign.

Reuben Mason, surgeon.

It is voted and resolved, that the commissary to be appointed to purchase supplies for the army, receive one per cent. for doing the said business, which shall be in full for all his services and expenses.

An Act confirming to the subjects of His Most Christian Majesty, the privileges, rights and immunities, stipulated in the treaty of amity and commerce between France and the United States of America.

Whereas, by the thirteenth article of the said treaty, it is provided, that the subjects and inhabitants of the said United States, or of any one of them, shall not be reputed Aubains in France, and consequently shall be exempted from the Droit d'Aubain, or other similar duty, under what name soever; and may, by testament, donation or otherwise, dispose of their goods, moveable and immoveable, in favor of such persons as to them shall seem good; and their heirs, subjects of the said United States, whether residing in France or elsewhere, may succeed them *ab intestato*, without being obliged to obtain letters of naturalization, and without having the effect of this concession contested or impeded, under

pretext of any rights or prerogatives of provincial cities, or private persons ; and that the said heirs, whether such by particular title, or by *ab intestat*, shall be exempt from all duty called the *Droit de Detraction*, or other duty of the same kind.

Saving nevertheless, the local rights or duties, as much and as long as similar ones are not established by the United States, or any of them ; and that the subjects of the Most Christian King shall enjoy on their part, in all the dominions of the said states, an entire and perfect reciprocity relative to the stipulations contained in the said article,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, in conformity to the above-recited article, that all the like privileges, rights and immunities, thereby granted to the subjects of the said United States, or of any of them, while in France, be, and they are hereby, granted to and conferred upon the subjects of His Most Christian Majesty, or any of them, while in this state, or any of the United States ; and that the said subjects of His Most Christian Majesty, or any of them, while in this state, be, and they hereby are, declared competent and capable in law, by testament, donation or otherwise, to dispose of their goods, moveable and immoveable in favor of such persons as to them shail seem good ; and their heirs, subjects of His Most Christian Majesty, whether residing in this state or elsewhere, may succeed them, not subject to any duties therefor, and without being obliged to obtain letters of naturalization, in the same manner as the heirs of the subjects of this state inherit the property of their relations who die intestate ; and that the said subjects of His Most Christian Majesty shall, and may, be capable to commence, and prosecute to final judgment and execution, actions at law for personal injuries, or for obtaining their property, as fully and amply, and in the same manner, as the subjects of this state, without being

obliged to obtain letters of naturalization; and shall possess and enjoy, in the fullest manner, all the privileges and immunities intended by the said recited article, agreeably to the form and spirit thereof.

And it is ordered, that this act be published in the newspapers of this state; and that a copy thereof, be transmitted to Congress.

It is voted and resolved, that the recognizance of Stephen Potter, who was ordered to attend at this session of Assembly, be, and the same is hereby, continued until the next session of this Assembly.

An abstract for the pay and subsistence of this state's battalion, under the command of Col. John Topham, exhibited unto this Assembly, from the 16th day of March, to the 2d day of May, A. D. 1780, being duly considered, together with the auditor's report thereon,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount thereof, being £1,187 19s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., lawful money, be allowed and paid the said John Topham, out of the general treasury, to discharge the same.

An abstract exhibited unto this Assembly, for the pay and subsistence of this state's regiment of artillery, under the command of Col. Robert Elliott, from the 16th day of March, to the 1st day of June, A. D. 1780, being duly considered, together with the auditor's report thereon,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount thereof, being £1,042 13s. 3d., lawful money, be allowed and paid to Capt. John Garzia, paymaster to the said regiment, out of the general treasury, to discharge the same.

An abstract for the subsistence allowed by the state to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers in this state's battalion, under the command of Col. John Topham, from the 16th day of March, to the 6th day May, A. D. 1780, being exhibited unto this Assembly, and duly considered, together with the auditor's report thereon,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount thereof, being

£284 19s. 4<sup>1</sup>d., lawful money, be allowed and paid to the said John Topham, out of the general treasury, to discharge the same.

An abstract for the subsistence allowed by the state to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers in this state's regiment of artillery, under the command of Colonel Robert Elliott, from the 16th day of March, to the 1st day of June, A. D. 1780, being exhibited unto this Assembly, and duly considered, together with the auditor's report thereon,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount thereof, being £323 18s. 2d., lawful money, be allowed and paid to Capt. John Garzia, paymaster to the said regiment, out of the general treasury, to discharge the same.

**An Act for raising, and sending into the field, six hundred and ten men, to recruit the Continental battalions raised by this state, under the command of Colonel Christopher Greene, and Col. Israel Angell.**

Whereas, the exigence of the public affairs requires that a formidable efficient force be raised, and sent into the field, as soon as possible; and whereas, this state is called upon by Congress, and the commander-in-chief of the forces of the United States, to recruit the Continental battalions of this state, with six hundred and ten men; in order, therefore, to comply with the said requisitions, and to give, as far as possible, stability and success to the public measures,—

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that six hundred and ten able-bodied, effective men be raised as soon as possible, to recruit the said battalions; that they rendezvous at Providence by the 1st day of July next, and continue in service until the 1st day of January next, unless sooner discharged; and that each soldier so raised, sign the enlistment and take the oath directed by Congress, *mutatis mutandis*.

It is further enacted, that each able-bodied, effective man, who shall enlist into the said service, shall be entitled to,

and receive, a bounty of £15, in the bills ordered to be emitted by this Assembly, at the present session, to be paid upon his being properly engaged, or to the same sum in silver or gold, at the expiration of the term for which he is enlisted, with an interest at the rate of five per centum per annum, at his election; and shall also receive forty shillings per month, for the time he shall be in service (desertions excepted), in silver or gold, or other money equivalent.

And for the more effectual and speedy raising the said recruits,—

It is further enacted, that the number of men to be raised, as aforesaid, be apportioned to the several towns in this state in the following manner, to wit:

*Each Town's Proportion of Men to be furnished for the Continental Battalions in the State.*

Newport,	-	-	32	Westerly,	-	-	23
Portsmouth,	-	-	8	North Kingstown,	-	-	32
Jamestown,	-	-	3	South Kingstown,	-	-	49
Middletown,	-	-	5	Charlestown,	-	-	18
Tiverton,	-	-	25	Richmond,	-	-	15
Little Compton,	-	-	21	Hopkinton,	-	-	21
Providence,	-	-	42	Exeter,	-	-	24
Smithfield,	-	-	35	Bristol,	-	-	13
Glocester,	-	-	34	Warren,	-	-	10
Scituate,	-	-	40	Barrington,	-	-	7
Cumberland,	-	-	18	Warwick,	-	-	31
Cranston,	-	-	24	East Greenwich,	-	-	19
Johnston,	-	-	12	West Greenwich,	-	-	18
North Providence,	-	-	10	Coventry,	-	-	21

It is further enacted, that each of the towns shall furnish and deliver their respective quotas of men, aforesaid, at Providence, on or before the said 1st day of July, with a list of their names, and of the towns to which they respectively belong, to be mustered and received by the Conti-

mental officer then commanding there; who is hereby requested immediately thereupon, to inform His Excellency the Governor of this state, of the number of effective men furnished by each town.

It is further enacted, that each town shall be allowed six shillings, in the bills, aforesaid, for every able-bodied man who shall be enlisted and mustered, as aforesaid; and that no allowance shall be made to any town, for or on account of any bounty advanced or paid for any soldier raised, who shall not pass muster, as aforesaid.

It is further enacted, that the men who shall be enlisted, as aforesaid, shall be credited to the towns to which they respectively belong.

Provided nevertheless, that, upon any town's quota being completely enlisted, if any inhabitant of such town shall be enlisted, over and above its proportion, then, and in that case, he shall be credited to the town which shall enlist him.

And provided also, that if any man shall be enlisted by any town, other than that of which he is an inhabitant, the said bounty of £15, and allowance of six shillings for enlistment, as aforesaid, shall be paid by the town to which he belongs, before he shall be credited to the same.

It is further enacted, the persons whose names are hereafter mentioned, be appointed and empowered to receive such sums of money as are sufficient for paying the bounty allowed to each soldier, as aforesaid, ordered to be raised by the respective towns, for which the towns shall be accountable, to wit:

*Names of the Persons appointed by the General Assembly  
to receive the money for paying the Bounties to the  
Soldiers.*

Newport—Mr. John Townsend.

Providence—James Arnold, Esq.

Portsmouth—Thomas Shearman, Esq.

Warwick—Thomas Rice, Esq.

Westerly—Mr. David Maxson.  
North Kingstown—Mr. Benjamin Davis.  
South Kingstown—Mr. Robert Potter.  
East Greenwich—Thomas Tillinghast, Esq.  
Jamestown—Benjamin Underwood, Esq.  
Smithfield—Uriah Alverson, Esq.  
Scituate—The Honorable William West, Esq.  
Glocester—Zebedee Hopkins, Jr., Esq.  
Charlestown—Mr. Benjamin Hoxsie, Jr.  
West Greenwich—Mr. Elisha Greene.  
Exeter—John Chapman, Esq.  
Middletown—Thomas Peckham, Esq.  
Coventry—Mr. William Burlingame.  
Bristol—John Howland, Esq.  
Tiverton—Mr. David Durfee, Jr.  
Little Compton—Philip Taylor, Esq.  
Warren—William Turner Miller, Esq.  
Cumberland—Mr. Nathan Staples.  
Richmond—Thomas Lillibridge, Esq.  
Cranston—Mr. Joshua Turner.  
Hopkinton—Mr. Joshua Clarke.  
Johnston—Edward Fenner, Esq.  
North Providence—John Jenckes, Esq.  
Barrington—Thomas Allen, Esq.

It is further enacted, that each soldier so enlisted, as aforesaid, shall receive threepence, in the bills, aforesaid, for every mile's travel from the town for which he shall be enlisted, and be furnished with one pair of overalls, one linen frock or hunting shirt, and one pair of stockings, by the agent-clothier in this state, and with one pair of shoes by the commissary of hides in this state.

It is further enacted, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to send by express, £4,575, in the bills ordered to be emitted in this present session, immediately on its being lodged in the general treasury, to the persons aforesigned, and in proportion to the number of

men assigned to each town in the foregoing apportionment; and that the person or persons carrying the said money take receipts of the persons to whom the same is to be delivered as aforesaid, in the respective towns, and lodge them with the general treasurer.

It is further enacted, that the Honorable Jabez Bowen, Esq., and James Mitchell Varnum and Esek Hopkins, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to wait upon the Honorable Major General Heath, and request him to cause the privates in Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment to be incorporated into the regiment commanded by Colonel Israel Angell, or otherwise disposed of for the best good of the service; and that Colonel Greene and his officers be appointed to command the men ordered to be raised by this act, in a corps separate and entire.

It is further enacted, that the secretary cause a sufficient number of enlistments, and copies of this act, to be immediately printed, and sent to the town clerks of the several towns, who are hereby empowered and directed to convene the inhabitants of their respective towns, immediately on the receipt of the same, that this act may be executed as soon as possible; and that copies hereof, be inserted in all the newspapers printed in this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the secretary be, and he is hereby, directed to cause the schedules containing the acts and orders of the General Assembly, and resolves of the council of war, to the present time, to be immediately printed.

Whereas, the British troops, when they took possession of Rhode Island, and the other islands in the Narragansett Bay, did take from the inhabitants thereof, who were friends to, and wished for the independence of the United States, their effects, and deposited them in the hands of divers of the inhabitants of the said islands; and did likewise, upon the evacuation of the aforesaid islands, leave divers goods and effects there; and as it is necessary that the said effects should be secured, that those who are citizens of

this state, or of any of the United States, may have their effects, taken in manner as aforesaid, restored; and that the effects belonging to the British should be secured for the benefit of the state,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that William Taggart and Christopher Ellery, Esqs., be, and they, or either of them, are hereby, empowered to issue their warrants to the sheriff of the county of Newport, to take possession of all effects whatever that did heretofore belong to any of the citizens of this state, or of any of the United States, which the British troops or their emissaries did take or purloin from the citizens, aforesaid; and also of all effects which do belong to the said British troops; and that the said William Taggart and Christopher Ellery make report of their doings, and return an account of the said effects, from whom they were taken, and to whom the same belong, to this Assembly, at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that Chas. Holden, Jr., Esq., commissary of purchases, be, and he is hereby, directed to purchase, and have in readiness by the 1st day of July next, two hundred good draught horses, thirty hogsheads of rum, ninety thousand weight of beef on the hoof, hides included; and two thousand two hundred and eighty-five bushels of grain for forage; and, that for the purpose, aforesaid, he be, and hereby is, empowered to draw the sum of £7,000, lawful money, in the bills ordered to be emitted at this session, out of the general treasury.

Voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid, out of the general treasury, viz.:—

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
John Beverly, sheriff of the county of Providence, for expenses in apprehending burglars .....	654 00 0
Ichabod Smith, keeper of the jail in the county of Kent, for boarding Tibbits Hopkins, a prisoner of war.....	120 00 0
Joseph Button, a wounded soldier, in consideration of his wounds received on Rhode Island.....	300 00 0
Job Greenman, a wounded soldier .....	200 00 0

	£ s. d.
Colonel Christopher Greene, on account of depreciation, at the rate of forty for one.....	1,002 18 0
Capt. Elijah Lewis, on account of recruiting service, being for depreciation, at the rate of forty for one.....	186 12 0
Lieut. David Johnson, for the same, and for depreciation.....	124 10 0
Martin and Coy, for repairs done in the secretary's office.....	30 12 0
Thomas Wells, justice of the superior court, for services and expenses, to re- ceive information against confiscated estates .....	556 10 0
Stephen Potter, justice of the superior court, for the same service.....	610 08 0
Gideon Comstock, " " " " " .....	448 00 0
Paris Gardner, deputy sheriff, for attendance on the General Assembly .....	168 00 0
Ebenezer Tefft, for attendance on the General Assembly, as waiter.....	69 00 0
David Douglass, " " " " " .....	38 00 0
Benjamin Bourne, for his service, as clerk of the lower house.....	249 06 0
Bennett Wheeler, for printing.....	312 00 0
Edward Perry, for making several copies of the address to the towns.....	33 14 0
James Helme, " " " " " .....	18 18 0
Freeman Perry, for his services as auditor, and for assisting the secretary....	180 00 0
Sands Perkins, for going express to John Northup, at night .....	30 00 0
John Northup, for settling the accounts for depreciation of wages with the army.....	150 19 0

God save the United States of America.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress,  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

In Congress, May 19th, 1780.

Sir:—Congress have received authentic information that His Most Christian Majesty is preparing to send a powerful naval and land force to some part of the Continent of North America. This force, generously calculated either to produce a diversion in our favor, or to forward the operation of our arms, by being directed to the same object, may, either by our exertions be made the means of delivering our country in the course of the campaign from the ravages of war; or, being rendered ineffectual, through our supineness, serve only to sully the reputation of our arms, to defeat the benevolent intention of our great ally, and to disgrace our confederacy in the eyes of all Europe.

Every state that reflects upon the depreciation of the currency, and their own deficiency in the payment of their taxes, must necessarily conclude that the treasury is exhausted. The military departments are at a stand for the want of money to put them in motion. Congress have no resources but in your spirit of virtue; upon these they confidently rely. You know the value of the prize for which you contend; nor need you be informed how much you are interested in a speedy termination of this distressing and expensive war.

But as the smallest disappointment in the requisitions they make, may be attended with the most serious consequences, they have endeavored so to limit their demands, as not to exceed your power to comply with them.

The sum for which you are called upon by the within resolution, they flatter themselves you will furnish to the treasury by the 15th of June, at furthest, without neglecting to discharge the orders that have been drawn upon you; for the whole of which, you will receive credit on your account of taxes due on the 1st of March last.

As this money is absolutely necessary to put the army in motion, independent of the purchase of provisions, we trust you will by no means remit your attention to the forwarding your quota of supplies, which the present exigency renders more requisite than ever.

It may not be improper to suggest to you, that if a strict and immediate collection of taxes should be insufficient to procure the necessary sums within the time limited, it may perhaps be more speedily obtained by loans.

Congress, for the greater dispatch, have thought it expedient to appoint a committee to assist the commander-in-chief in drawing out supplies. As their powers will be inadequate to the purposes of their appointment, unless they shall derive their force from the states to whom they will be under the necessity of applying, they most earnestly request you, if you should find it inconvenient to continue your sessions, to lodge such powers in your executive, or some part of your legislative body, as will enable them at this interesting period, on the application of the committee to call forth the resources of your state.

Congress trust that these requisitions will not appear unnecessary, when compared with the information on which they are grounded. In the importance of which, they doubt not that you will find a sufficient apology for the demand, and the warmth with which they entreat you to carry these measures into immediate execution.

By order of Congress,  
SAMUEL HUNTINGTON, President.

To His Excellency the Governor of Rhode Island }  
and Providence Plantations. }

### *General Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Morristown, 24th May, 1780.

Sir:—Capt. Roche Fontaine, will have the honor of presenting this letter to Your Excellency. He is charged with dispatches for the French Admiral, and is on business of the same nature with that mentioned in my letter of yesterday by the Chevalier Fayole. I request that Your Excellency will give him every assistance which may be necessary to facilitate the purposes of his commission.

I have the honor to be, with great respect and esteem,  
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

P. S. Capt. Roche Fontaine will be stationed at Seaconnet, where it will be necessary for him to have some boats and pistols under his direction. I have written to Major Porteus, in case the artillery and stores are not removed from Providence, to let them remain there for the present.

### *Committee of Congress to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

In Committee of Congress,  
Circular.] Morristown, 25th May, 1780. }

Sir:—Yesterday we were honored with a dispatch from Congress, conveying to us their resolutions of the 19th instant, together with a copy of their circular letter of the same date, to the several states, from New Hampshire to Virginia, inclusive. By one of the former, we are appointed to assist the commander-in-chief in drawing out supplies for the army; and the line of conduct we are to pursue, is pointed out in those subse-

quent; the whole having been transmitted to your state, together with the circular letter, it is unnecessary to enclose Your Excellency a copy.

Immediately on receipt of these papers, we laid them before the commander-in-chief, and entreated him to signify what supplies were immediately necessary to enable him to move the army; and to put it in a condition to co-operate vigorously with the *shortly* expected succor of the great and generous ally of these states.

This request, we candidly avow, was made more with a view to preserve form in conducting business, than for want of competent information on the subject; that having been fully detailed us by the General and others on former conferences, when acting as a committee of arrangement; he consequently had only to refer to what had been before delivered us by him and others, and which was, in substance, as follows:

That the army was five months' pay in arrears; that it had seldom or ever since it took this cantonment, had more than six days' provision in advance; that at present it is without meat, and has been on half or quarter allowance for some days past; that the commissaries cannot give any assurance of doing more than barely subsisting the troops from day to day; that even then, they apprehend a want of meat will frequently prevail; that the army is greatly deficient in camp equipage; that it is destitute of forage for the few horses which indispensable necessity has required should be maintained in camp; that it will require several thousand horses to move the army, so as to promise any effectual operation from it; that the sick in hospitals have not a sufficiency of those articles necessary for their comfort; that carriages in considerable numbers are wanted; that the quartermaster general has not a competent number of boats for the use of the army, in case any offensive operation should take place; that he has no materials for constructing new boats and carriages, nor even for repairing the old; that as every department of the army is without money, and not even the shadow of credit left, consequently no article, however necessary, can be procured; that the transportation, even of the inadequate supply of flour, forage and other articles, hitherto furnished by the states, is at a stand; that very few of the recruits, required by the act of Congress of the 9th of February last, have arrived; that, from information received, there is no prospect that any considerable number will timely engage in the service, or voluntary enlistment; that by the expiration of the terms for which men were engaged, deaths and desertions, the army is so greatly reduced, that it does not afford a probable prospect of its acting with any degree of efficacy in merely defensive operations; that the patience of the soldiery, who have endured every degree of conceivable hardship, and borne it with fortitude and perseverance beyond the expectations of the most sanguine, is on the point of being exhausted; that a spirit of discontent is encouraged by the arts of the enemy, whose emissaries hold up, in printed papers distributed among the soldiery, the most flattering prospects and promises, to induce them to desert their colors.

The evidence given us in support of this detail of facts, has been fully corroborated by our observations and inquiry. And painful as the contemplation of the distresses our country labors under, may be, we conceive it would have been inconsistent with our duty, to have palliated or disguised them, in an address to the constituents of that body under whose authority we act, as they ought in our opinion, to be fully informed. For, it is to them, this committee is directed to apply; and on them, every reliance for relief and assistance must rest, in this very critical and important moment; but so far are we from desponding under this variety of embarrassments, that we reflect with a satisfaction—the result of conviction—that the country is not destitute of the resources necessary to enable its army to act with vigor, and to second the views of our illustrious ally; and that the legislative and executive powers of your state, impressed as they are with a just sense of the magnitude of the object, are equally desirous as capable of drawing them forth.

Congress, in their circular letter, has pointed generally at the measures necessary to be adopted by the states. We conceive it incumbent on us, in discharge of the trust reposed, to point more minutely at particulars, and in some measure to enter into a detail of them; we are encouraged to this, under a persuasion that the states will impute to our zeal and affection for the interest and weal of our country, the liberty we take, and not to a spirit of dictating, which would be equally improper as presumptuous.

In a letter we had the honor to address Congress on the 16th instant, but which had not reached Philadelphia when the circular letter and resolutions we have alluded to, were passed, we stated the little probability (which from the information we had obtained) there appeared to be of completing the quotas of men called for by the act of Congress of the 9th of February last, by volunteer enlistments; and we conceived it requisite to propose a set of resolutions calculated to draw forth the intended complement of men for the army, together with a state of the deficiencies; a copy of which we have the honor to enclose, persuaded that the states can with more facility and much less expense, make drafts to serve during the campaign, than to engage men to serve for the war; and convinced from repeated experience, that no reliance is to be made on gaining a sufficient number by voluntary enlistment.

Should the mode we have proposed, be as agreeable to the sentiments of the legislature of your state, as it is to those of the commander-in-chief, we cannot entertain a doubt but that the measure will be adopted with alacrity, and executed with energy.

From the statement we have made of the distressed condition of the army, in point of provision, we are persuaded that every argument to induce the utmost exertions to fill the magazines which the commander-in-chief has directed to be formed, would be needless as a matter of such importance will certainly claim the most immediate attention of the legislative and executive powers of the states.

Congress, in their act of the 25th February last, have not called on the states for the transportation of any of the articles of supply enumerated in that act, beyond the limits of the states furnishing the same. If the officers whose business it is to direct the transportation, were, or could be, furnished in time with money for that service, it would probably supersede the necessity of any intervention by the states. As they are not, nor is it probable they can be, even with the best exertions of the states, we humbly recommend that authority be given by your legislature to the executive authority, or to such other persons as they may think proper, to furnish such carriage to the officers acting under the authority of Congress or their committee, as may be needful to convey those supplies or any other for the public use to the army, or to such posts and places where they may be required; and that until the public officers shall have cash in hand to pay for the same, we entreat the legislature of your state to give assurances to its citizens that speedy and effectual measures will be taken to make payment of the debts which may be thus incurred and remain unpaid, with an interest of six per cent. per annum, as stated in the resolutions of Congress of the 19th instant.

It is more than probable, necessity will require that some state should be called upon for additional supplies to those apportioned to them in the act of Congress of the 25th of February last; both because our army and that of our ally may take such a position as that supplies from remote states cannot be brought; and because some states are so exhausted that they cannot even furnish the quotas assigned them.

It therefore becomes essential that similar powers to those stated in the preceding paragraph should be lodged in the executive authority, or other persons, for furnishing such supplies on the application of this committee, or officers appointed for that purpose. And to this matter we entreat permission to draw the attention of your legislature. As it would be hazarding too much to depend on the precarious supply of horses and carriages which might be furnished by the inhabitants occasionally to move

the artillery, baggage and stores immediately attached to the army; and as the aid of the states to procure the horses and carriages in the present exhausted state of the public treasury is evidently necessary, we are also constrained to entreat the attention of your legislature to this capital object, and to request [that the executive authority, or other persons, may be empowered to comply with the request of this committee, or persons by them authorized for that purpose, on the condition mentioned in the paragraph next preceding the last.

Having, sir, stated the most material articles of the many which are wanted, we beg leave to urge the indispensable necessity of investing your executive authority or such other persons as your legislature may judge proper to entrust, with ample powers to comply with the requisitions of the committee, or other persons by them appointed, for the variety of articles necessary for an army and its appendages, and of which no perfect enumeration can be made; and to rely for reimbursement out of the money called for from the states.

Had it been practicable to have stated the particular extra supplies which necessity will induce us to call for from each state, for the support of the army and its operations, it would have been our duty to have done so. As it was not, we wish your legislature to believe that the committee will pay every possible attention in making requisitions for supplies so as to render the burthen as equal in proportion to the ability of each state, as their situation and the nature of the service will by any means admit.

It is possible, sir, that should ever the deficiencies be complete, the quotas of troops apportioned to the states in February last, join their corps as early as the exigency of affairs certainly requires, aids of militia may nevertheless be called for by the commander-in-chief; and as so much depends on dispatch in offensive operations, we beg leave most earnestly to recommend that such measures may be adopted as will effectually draw forth this invaluable resource with as little delay as possible.

Having stated what appears to the committee absolutely requisite to be adopted and pursued by the states, permit us, sir, to add we are authorized to communicate that the naval and land force alluded to by Congress in their circular letter, was to have sailed so *early* from France, that they may be daily expected to arrive on this coast; that the orders given by the Court of Versailles, for the line of conduct to be observed by their officers in combining their forces with ours, to operate against the common enemy, already evince the most unbounded confidence and the most unequivocal determination, that it should be directed by American councils, and rendered subservient to the interest of these states. This generosity on the part of our illustrious ally, strongly points out the necessity of taking every precaution in our power, that his views may not be frustrated, nor his arms disgraced. Indeed, we should be left without the shadow of an excuse, should we through inattention or undecision neglect to avail ourselves of the advantages to which such a capital succor is capable of being improved. We should degrade our character, disgrace our arms and evince to all the world that we were either destitute of resources, wanted exertion to draw them forth, or wisdom to apply them; and either would tend to discredit our cause, and stamp these states with indelible pains of infamy.

But Americans are incapable of such folly! They will see the necessity of risking possible evils, nay, of even suffering certain but temporary ones with fortitude, and of sacrificing a portion of property, if such sacrifice shall be found necessary, rather than by withholding it, involve themselves and their posterity in misery too painful to be contemplated without the deepest anxiety.

You, sir, and the legislature of your state, we are fully convinced will on this occasion, display with additional lustre that virtue and wisdom which have hitherto so eminently distinguished your councils; and by taking the lead in exertion, will stimulate

your citizens to such laudable acts, as will amply entitle them to the invaluable blessings of that liberty, peace and independence for which they have fought and bled.

The committee have only to add their wishes, that you, sir, will be pleased to convene the legislature of the state with as much dispatch as possible, and to lay these our applications before them.

We have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

TH : SCHUYLER,

J. W. MATHEWS,

NATH'L PEABODY.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress,  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

Philadelphia, May 29, 1780.

Sir :—Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed two acts of Congress of the 24th and 27th instant. The former recommending to those of the states whose debts are due to their inhabitants from the quartermaster's and commissary's department, by notes or certificates given as mentioned in the act; to make provision for discounting and discharging such debts, by empowering the collectors to receive them in payment of the taxes due to the 1st of March next, in the manner prescribed in the act. It is hoped this mode may prove beneficial in those states where considerable debts are due under the circumstances before mentioned, and in those states only can the act be properly applied.

By the other act of the 27th, you will be informed of the measures adopted by Congress to equip for sea the naval force of the United States with the utmost expedition; as also their recommendations to the several states to adopt the necessary measures for promoting harmony and forwarding the common views of France and America, as expressed in the resolutions enclosed; which it is not doubted will meet with due consideration and attention from the several states, and receive the necessary aid of the legislatures to carry the same into execution as speedily as the nature of the case will admit.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's humble servant,

SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

To His Excellency the Governor of Rhode Island.

*Col. Christopher Greene to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, 30th May, 1780.

Sir :—In consequence of orders received from Gen. Washington to immediately set my regiment to work in making fascines, till further orders; and having yesterday found the proper stuff for the purpose, in North Kingstown, have ordered the regiment there. What state troops there are, will continue to do duty here, though their number is inadequate to the security of the several kinds of stores. I shall have them put in as narrow a compass as possible, in order to make as few sentinels as will any way answer.

There arrived a flag here from New York, yesterday, after two families of women and children. They brought papers as late as the 25th instant; not a word in them relative to Charlestown, or any other news, except that the Galatea had taken and sent into New York the Hamlin, a privateer of twenty guns, belonging to Newburyport, on

the 24th instant. Should have enclosed the papers, was there any thing in them worth Your Excellency's attention.

This flag met Capt. Jackson going into New York the day he came out.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

C. GREENE.

To Governor Greene.

*Ezekiel Cornell, Delegate in the Continental Congress to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Morristown, May 30th, 1780.

Dear Sir:—I do myself the honor to address Your Excellency at a time when the fate of these United States is pregnant with the most alarming events that ever attended them since the commencement of this unnatural war. And was I to remain silent, I should think I justly deserved the curses of every *freeman* in the state that sent me forward. I assure you, upon my honor, the following narrative is drawn from facts stated by His Excellency General Washington, confirmed and avowed by General Greene and the committee from Congress, with which corresponds my own observation for three days past.

That from every inquiry and observation that I have been able to make, they all so far correspond, as to authorize me to declare officially that the circular letter from the committee of Congress contains an impartial representation of the distresses and embarrassments the army labor under; since which the commander-in-chief hath had the mortification to see two whole regiments from the Connecticut line parade with their arms, packs, &c., determined to leave this land of misery, disband and return home. Had it not been for the timely exertions of a number of officers (who have done great honor to themselves), it is more than probable the matter would have become serious, and the whole troops marched off the ground. His Excellency is still under the dismal apprehension that the moment is not far distant when such an event will take place. In a word, the embarrassments under which the commander-in-chief now labors, is of such a complicated, distressing nature, that they could not be borne by a less *exalted soul*. I want words to express the feeling manner in which he represented his distresses and his fears of the country being subjugated by the power of Britain.

The committee from Congress appear to be no less alarmed. Every appearance bears a complexion at this place, sufficient to convince every thinking man that nothing can save us from destruction but a spirited exertion in the several states, and drawing forth the resources of the country, for which I cannot doubt the state of Rhode Island, making her utmost efforts. But when I take a view of the civil policy of the several states in the union, I almost despair of being able to make any vigorous exertions until there is a power vested in some man, or number of men obligatory and binding on all the states in the union. As it will be impossible to convince the several legislatures of the necessity until the happy moment is passed, of which I trust you will be satisfied when you are informed a principal state,\* (to say nothing of the monthly taxes) hath not yet paid their proportion of the \$60,000,000.

I must take the liberty to desire you to use your influence that one of my colleagues may come forward, as I am fully convinced the important business now before Congress will far exceed my abilities.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant

EZEK. CORNELL.

\* Pennsylvania.

N. B. There is not one word of news from Charlestown. General Clinton marched yesterday with the York brigade for Albany, to stop the career of Sir Jona. Brant and Butler, who are —— Johnston, within forty miles of Albany, at the head of a considerable force, burning all before them.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Committee of Congress to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

In Committee of Congress, }  
Rhode Island.] Morristown, 2d June, 1780. }

Sir:—In a letter of the 31st ult., from the commander-in-chief, which we had the honor to receive on the same day, His Excellency observes, “ That in the expected co-operation with the force of our ally, against that of the common enemy, it is of great moment that we should proceed with circumspection, and on the surest grounds. Before we can determine what ought to be undertaken, we should be able to appreciate the means we shall have it in our power to employ, on some precise scale. To begin an enterprize against any point in possession of the enemy, on a general presumption of sufficient resources in the country, and proportionable exertions in the respective governments to bring them forth, would be justified by success—could never be defended, in case of misfortune, to say nothing of the fatal consequences that might ensue. It appears to me necessary to ascertain the number of men, and the quantity of supplies which the states are capable of furnishing in *a given time*, and to *obtain assurances* from them, founded on experience of their continuing supplies in the same proportion. I esteem the plan adopted by the committee in their circular letter, an extremely good preparatory one; but I think it of *indispensable importance*, in the next place, to come to something fixed and determinate. I therefore take the liberty to submit to the committee the necessity and propriety of calling immediately upon the states for *specific aids of men, provisions, forage* and the means of transportation.”

His Excellency next states the enemy’s number, and position—mentions the points against which the combined arms will probably be directed, and furnishes us with an estimate of the force which America ought to draw into the field; with others, exhibiting a state of provisions, horses, carriages and a variety of other articles indispensably necessary to give vigor and a probable prospect of success to our operations.

Duty and inclination equally impelled us to a conference with the General, and to the most serious consideration of the subject. The result was a determination, specifically to apportion to, and request from the states referred to in the resolution of Congress of the 19th ult., to furnish the requisite supplies by the 1st day of July. In estimating these, we have paid all possible regard to the probable resources of each, and to their relative position to those scenes of operation, which are at present in contemplation.

We shall accordingly annex the kind and quantum of supplies which are monthly expected from your state; and we have to entreat that you will fully comply with the requisitions we have the honor to make, and that they will be kept up, in the same proportion until the last of November, if necessity should induce us to continue the application to that period, even although any of the articles now called for, should exceed the quota assigned you by the act of Congress of the 25th of February last. And you will please, sir, to signify to us, without delay, the determination of your state on this important subject.

Here it becomes our duty to advise you, as upon examination you will perceive, that we have stated your quota per month, in some articles, beyond what it would have been, could we have strictly adhered to the proportion on which the allotments made by the act of the 25th of February last, were adjusted; but this was found impracticable, because of the exhausted condition of some of the states, in which the army and

its principal detachments have wintered. But as those, in the course of the campaign, will be enabled to afford more than they can at present, your quota as now stated, will of course diminish. The requisition, sir, is large, but it is barely competent. It is the least adequate to the intended operations, as it is calculated on the most limited expenditures, without the smallest allowance for accidental losses, or extra consumption.

Having given the states a fixed point to regulate themselves by, their measures will be equal to it, and their exertions competent to the magnitude of the object. In matters of such high import, it appears to the General and to us, essential that there should be a proper understanding on all hands. That the states should know the wants of the army, and what is expected for it. That the General and the committee should be clearly and explicitly advised of their abilities, both individually and collectively, and to have determined with precision what may be expected. We do not fear to discourage by the largeness of the demand, as we conceive it impossible they should not bear with the knowledge of the wants of their army, and because knowing them, we are persuaded their wisdom and patriotism will impel them to every exertion to afford the supplies.

The supplies allotted to be furnished by your state, are seventy-one thousand six hundred and seventy-five pounds of beef per month, and thirty-six hogsheads of rum per month, to be transported to, and delivered where the commissary general shall direct; also two thousand two hundred and eighty-five bushels of grain for forage per month, to be transported and delivered where the quartermaster general shall direct; and two hundred draft-horses to be attached to the army, to be delivered as last aforesaid, and on or before the 1st day of July next.

The first monthly quota of supplies to be delivered by the 1st day of July next, and the subsequent ones monthly, *within* the months succeeding, as the quartermaster or commissary general shall direct. The forage and horses are additional articles to those stated in the act of Congress of the 25th February last; but the requisition on your state, as on others, for extra supplies, cannot be dispensed with; and the amount thereof, together with the transportation of any, must be charged in account with the United States.

We believe it would be advantageous to the United States in general, that the horses should be procured by hire, in preference to purchase, as the drivers who will then accompany them, will be more careful of the cattle. Should your state adopt the mode, we recommend that the contracts may be made, payable in specie, or in paper money equivalent; and that their value should be appraised on oath, and a return of the appraisement be made to the quartermaster general.

As the object against which the military operations will be directed, cannot be positively ascertained, we have it not in our power to call on you for a determinate quantum of transportation, but believe it will be considerable.

The Continental troops already engaged, and with the army, together with the addition requested by the General's letter of the 25th ult., to complete the battalions to five hundred and four, rank and file; and will still in his opinion and in our own, be inadequate to ensure success in the intended operations. In our circular letter of the 25th ult., we entreated your legislature to adopt measures for drawing forth your militia on the shortest notice; we have now to request that such arrangements may be made, as that your quota of militia, which with the concurrence of the commander-in-chief, we state at six hundred and thirty, rank and file, shall rendezvous at the army, or at such posts and places, as the General shall direct, by the 15th day of July next, at farthest, and to continue in service for the term of three months, computing from the day of their arrival at such rendezvous, as aforesaid.

Such of the supplies herein required, as make part of the quota assigned to your state, by the act of Congress of the 25th February last, and which it is requested you will transport to, and deliver where the quartermaster general or commissary general

shall direct, will be received for by the Continental officers appointed for that purpose, before either they or your agents convey or transport the same beyond the limits of your state. If, however, such Continental officer should not be present, you will give directions that the weight or quantity of the articles may be estimated, and an account or invoice transmitted with each parcel. We have to observe that in the beef requested, hides and tallow are not included; allowance must therefore be made for those whose cattle are sent to the army. If drivers are sent with the draft-horses and cattle, requested of your state, we wish to have one for every four horses or oxen.

We have the honor to be, with the greatest respect, and esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient servants,

PH. SCHUYLER,  
J. W. MATHEWS,  
NATH'L PEABODY.

To His Excellency the Governor of the state of Rhode Island.

P. S. We do most earnestly entreat that the requisition now made on your state for the quota of militia, may not be suffered, on any consideration whatever, to retard the completion of the Continental battalion, as recommended in our second circular letter of the 25th ult., the necessity of that measure becoming daily more striking and important.

### *General Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Morristown, 2d June, 1780.

Rhode Island—Circular]

Sir:—By the letter from the Honorable the Committee of Congress at Morristown, which this accompanies, Your Excellency will find that those gentlemen and myself, after maturely considering the matter, deem it essential to the success of the measures in contemplation to be carried on against the enemy, to call on the states for certain aids of militia, in addition to the requisitions for men already made; and that they should be at places of rendezvous, appointed by me, by the 15th day of next month.

The aid requested in this instance of your state, is founded on a principle of apportionment common to all the states, from New Hampshire to Maryland, inclusive (the others on account of their distance, and the operations in the Southern quarter not being now called on), and is stated at six hundred and thirty, rank and file.

This number of militia, *well armed* and equipped in every other respect for the field, in the best manner circumstances will admit, under proper officers, I wish to be at Providence at the time mentioned by the committee, which appears to me a suitable place for their rendezvousing at in the first instance, and from whence they will proceed on my orders, as occasion may require. It will also be material, on account of disciplining and organizing the men, as well as on account of public economy, that they should be formed into full regiments.

If this is not done, it will render our arrangements extremely difficult and irregular, and will add by greatly increasing the number of officers, very considerably to the public expense.

I would beg leave to observe, that I think the whole number of militia requested from your state, should be comprised in one regiment. This additional aid will not, I trust and earnestly entreat, impede in the smallest degree, the filling up the regiments of the state by drafts to their full complement, as requested by the Honorable the Committee, in their letters of the 25th ult. This is a point of such great importance, so absolutely essential to give the least prospect of success to our operations, and indeed on which they depend, that I could not forbear mentioning it. If the regiments are completed by drafts, it is possible our demands for militia may be a good deal diminished,

but this must be governed by events; and therefore, for objects so very interesting, so important as those are to which we at present look, we should provide whatever may be possibly requisite.

I have the honor to be, with great respect and esteem,  
Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress,  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Philadelphia, June 5, 1780.

Sir:—I have honor to inform Your Excellency that the bearer, Mons'r de Corny, is a commissary, from France, employed to procure the necessary supplies for the forces of His Most Christian Majesty, shortly expected on this coast, to co-operate with the armies of these United States.

In pursuance of a conference of a committee of Congress with the minister of France, in order to facilitate the co-operations of the combined forces, and to prevent all embarrassments that might possibly arise in procuring supplies, I am directed by Congress to request Your Excellency to afford to Col. Corny, the needful aid and advice respecting the mode of purchasing the necessary supplies for the French forces, which he shall be able, through your assistance, to procure in the state.

It is thought most proper, and likely to be attended with the least embarrassments, that the French commissary, Mons'r Corny, should make his purchases with the same currency with which the Continental purchasers procure supplies for our army, and that proper regulations be observed, to prevent competition among the purchasers.

From the character this gentleman sustains, I doubt not he will render himself agreeable, and his conduct acceptable; and take the liberty to recommend him to the favorable notice of Your Excellency.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect,  
Your Excellency's humble servant,

SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Committee of Congress to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

In Committee of Congress, }  
Morristown, June 11, 1780. }

Sir:—Since we had the honor to address you on the 2d instant, the enemy have come out in force, and pointed their operations to this army. The Hon. W. Gerry has been so obliging, at our request, as to promise to call on you, and to give you the particulars; and as he is well advised of the situation of affairs in this quarter, from his own observations, as well as from information, he can afford you the most ample detail on the subject.

We have the honor to be, with perfect esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient servants,

PH. SCHUYLER,  
J. W. MATHEWS,  
NATH'L PEABODY.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Washington to the Committee of Co-operation.*

Headquarters, Springfield, June 12th, 1780.

Gentlemen:—I have received information, which though not official, I deem authentic; that some of the states have taken up the measure of filling up their battalions by a draft on a less extensive footing than was urged in your circular letter of the 25th May.

Though I wish to pay in every instance, implicit deference to the determination of the respective states, I think it my duty in the present crisis, once more to declare with freedom, that I conceive the measure of filling our battalions to their full complement fundamental to a co-operation on a large scale. That any thing short of this, will infallibly compel us to confine ourselves to a more defensive plan, except as to some little partial indecisive enterprizes against remote points, and will disappoint the expectations of our allies, and protract the war.

The force which has been stated as necessary, is as small as will give us any prospect of a decisive effort. If it is not furnished, we must renounce every hope of this kind. It remains with the states to realize the consequences.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect and esteem, gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To the Committee of Co-Operation.

*Gen. Washington to the Committee of Co-operation.*

Headquarters, Rockaway, 23d June, 1780.

Gentlemen:—The enemy are now in full force, bending their march towards Morristown, and by my last advices had advanced beyond Springfield. They were vigorously opposed by our advanced corps. But what could the valor of a handful do against so infinite a superiority of numbers?

The enemy can effect any particular object they attempt. Besides the army, they can have no other in this state, than our stores; as we cannot defend them, we must endeavor to remove them. I am so intensely engaged in attention to our military operations, that I must entreat you to write to the executives of Pennsylvania and Jersey, pressing them to bring out all the wagons they can to our relief; an application has been made to Pennsylvania, for two hundred and fifty wagons; they ought to be instantly furnished.

But we do not know what may be [the ultimate designs of the enemy; all we know is, that they are very strong, and that we are very weak. I beg leave to recommend that the states be again called upon to re-double their exertions to comply with the demands that have been already made upon them. It is essential to our immediate safety, to say nothing of the expected co-operation. If she means to be free, this is the moment for America to exert herself.

With every sentiment of esteem, I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Your most obedient and humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honorable Committee of Co-operation.

*Ethis DeCorny, French Commissary General, &c., to the Governor and Council of Rhode Island.*

Providence, June 24th, 1780.

Do. Lewis Ethis DeCorny, Esquire, Commissary General of War of His Most Christian Majesty, and Orderer for the Execution of Commands of His abovesaid Majesty, relative to the French Army sent into America—Lt. Colonel of Cavalry in the Army of the United States of America, &c.:

Earnestly requests, and in the most pressing manner entreats His Excellency the Governor, and the Honorable Council of the state of Rhode Island, to furnish him an establishment for an hospital for the service of the French army, which is one of the most important articles, necessary to be prepared for their reception.

The knowledge he has of the situation of the college in this town, of its extent and salubrity of the air; and especially considering this building is situated in a town, the inhabitants of which are particularly attached to the good cause in which America and France are mutually engaged; whereas, on the other part, any other establishment in whatever place it may be fixed between this and Newport, will expose the sick in the hospital not only to the evil designs of the suspected part of the country, but also to the attempts of the enemy, who may with the greatest facility, make prisoners the whole of the sick in the hospitals; and considering besides, that this establishment in consequence of the above reasons, before his departure from France, was particularly adopted, fixed and absolutely appointed by the Court of France and Doctor Franklin, for the reception of the sick of the French army.

He therefore requests His Excellency the Governor and Council to comply with his entreaties, and to give immediate orders that the college may, without delay, be given up to him, for the purpose of making the necessary dispositions for the reception of his sick countrymen; he also begs leave to represent that it is not in his power to deviate from this very essential article of his instructions, especially as it has been previously fixed upon in France, where they were informed the college has been already made use of for a similar purpose. The aforesaid commissary has the honor to be,

With the most profound respect and esteem,

Your Excellency's and Your Honors'

Most obedient and most humble servant,

ETHIS DECORNY.

To the Governor and Council of Rhode Island.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly, for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Providence, on the first Monday in July, 1780.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. William West, Deputy Governor.

It being represented unto this Assembly, that Monsieur Lewis Ethis de Corny, commissary general of His Most Christian Majesty, and orderer for the execution of the commands of His said Majesty, relative to the French army expected to arrive here, finds great difficulty in procuring a house in Providence, for himself and his family, owing to the great number of inhabitants and the scarcity of houses; and it being also represented, that Major Nathaniel Greene, of Woodstock, hath a very convenient house for that purpose, in the said town of Providence, at present occupied by Captain Abimelech Riggs, with a very small family, who may be easily accommodated in some other house; and it being also represented that the said Nathaniel Greene does not soon intend to move with his family into the said house,—

It is therefore recommended to Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general in this state, to find a convenient place for the said Abimelech Riggs, and remove his family from the said house, and take up and give possession of the same to the said Monsieur de Corney, he agreeing to give a reasonable rent therefor.

It is voted and resolved, that John I. Clarke, Jonathan Arnold, Welcome Arnold, Adam Comstock and Thos. Rumreill, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to take the public letters lately received, into consideration, and prepare answers to them; and that they make report as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that those soldiers belonging to the light corps, lately under the command of Col. William Barton, but now in the companies commanded by Captain Henry Dayton and Captain John Garzia, who shall enlist into the Continental battalion now raising by this state, for the term of six months, shall, upon their so enlisting and passing muster, be discharged from their present service, and be entitled to the same bounty, wages and other allowances as are given by this state to others who have enlisted therein; and that such soldiers shall be accounted as the quota of, and receive their bounties from, the several towns to which they respectively belong, agreeably to the act for raising the said battalion, passed at the last session of this Assembly.

Four subsistence abstracts exhibited unto this Assembly, for Captain Henry Dayton's company, in Col. William Barton's Light Corps, from the 16th of March, to the 22d of June, A. D. 1780, being duly considered, together with the auditor's report thereon,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount of the said abstracts, being £715 4s.  $\frac{1}{2}d.$ , lawful money, be allowed and paid the said Henry Dayton, out of the general treasury, to discharge the same.

Four abstracts exhibited unto this Assembly, for the pay and subsistence of Captain Henry Dayton's company, in the Light Corps, commanded by Colonel William Barton, from the 16th of March, to the 22d of June, A. D. 1780, being duly considered, together with the auditor's report thereon,—

It is voted and resolved, that £1,029 16s.  $18\frac{1}{2}d.$ , lawful money, being the amount thereof, be allowed and paid the said Henry Dayton, out of the general treasury, to discharge the same.

It is voted and resolved, that Major Ebenezer Flagg, who is under marching orders with Colonel Greene's regiment, to join the grand army, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw \$2,000 out of the general treasury, to enable him to de-

fray the necessary expenses of transporting the baggage, &c. of the troops under his command; and that he account for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that six hundred and ten blankets be immediately furnished, for the use of the recruits ordered to be raised, by an act passed at the last session of this Assembly, to complete the state's quota of Continental troops; that they be proportioned to the respective towns, agreeably to the number of men required of each town by the said act; and that the persons hereafter named, be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed, to procure the same, in their several towns, to wit:

*Names of the Persons appointed by the General Assembly  
to procure the Blankets for the Soldiers.*

Newport—Samuel Fowler, Esq.

Providence—Mr. Paul Allen.

Portsmouth—Mr. Burrington Anthony.

Warwick—Mr. John Stafford.

Westerly—Mr. Daniel Rogers.

North Kingstown—James Congdon, Esq.

South Kingstown—Mr. Nathaniel Perkins.

East Greenwich—Job Comstock, Esq.

Jamestown—Benjamin Underwood, Esq.

Smithfield—Elisha Mowry, Jr., Esq.

Scituate—Mr. Jonathan Hopkins, Jr.

Glocester—Mr. Reuben Mason.

Charlestown—Mr. William Gardner.

West Greenwich—Benjamin Tillinghast, Esq.

Coventry—Mr. William Burlingame.

Exeter—Mr. Samuel Gorton.

Middletown—Mr. Giles Stanton.

Bristol—Richard Smith, Esq.

Tiverton—Gilbert Devol, Esq.

Little Compton—Mr. George Wood.

Warren—Ebenezer Cole, Esq.

Cumberland—Mr. Stephen Whipple.  
Richmond—Mr. Samuel Stanton.  
Cranston—Nehemiah Knight, Esq.  
Hopkinton—Mr. Hezekiah Babcock.  
Johnston—Mr. Rufus Sprague.  
North Providence—Esek Hopkins, Esq.  
Barrington—Mr. Thomas Allen.

It is further voted and resolved, that the persons aforesaid be, and they are hereby, directed, to purchase the said blankets at the most reasonable prices, and not to give more than £80, lawful money, apiece for those of the best quality; that if the said blankets cannot be purchased at a reasonable rate, they be, and are hereby, empowered and directed to take and distrain the same from such persons as can conveniently spare them in their respective towns, and make a reasonable appraisement of the same; and that the said blankets be immediately collected by them, and delivered into the agent-clothier's store at Providence, on or before the 10th day of July instant.

And it is further voted and resolved, the persons appointed in the several towns, as aforesaid, give certificates of the appraised value and cost of the blankets taken or purchased, as aforesaid, which certificates shall be receivable in payment of the next state tax, which may be ordered by this Assembly; and that the said persons be allowed a reasonable consideration for their expenses and services, in transacting the business enjoined on them by this resolve.

Resolved, that copies of this act be immediately printed, and sent to the several persons aforesaid.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins and Nathan Miller, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to sell at public vendue, all the guns, shot, iron, &c., belonging to the state, which have been saved from the wrecks or otherwise, as soon as may be; that they notify the time and place of sale in the Newport and Providence

newspapers; and that they lodge the money arising from the said sales, in the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Solomon Southwick, Esq., deputy commissary general of issues, be, and he is hereby, empowered to receive of Charles Holden, Esq., commissary of purchases for this state, such quantities of provisions and other supplies, from time to time, as may be necessary for the supply of the troops in this state.

Whereas, the town of Newport receives a great supply of fuel from the states of Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut, and the said town will be greatly distressed for the want of that necessary article, if the boats employed in that business should be detained within this state; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the boats employed in the transportation of fuel from the said states of Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut, for the use of the inhabitants of this state, be not detained within the ports of this state, the resolution of the council of war, laying an embargo, to the contrary, notwithstanding; and that the said boats be under the immediate inspection of, and receive passes from, the intendant of trade for the port of Newport, and Col. John Topham; who are hereby directed not to permit any of the inhabitants of this state to pass in the said boats.

Whereas, the following taxes have been assessed on the following estates of absentees, in the town of Jamestown, to wit:

	£ . s.
On the estate late Thomas Hutchinson's, - - -	57 09
“ “ “ Joseph Wanton's, - - -	18 00
“ “ North Farm (so called), late	
Apthorp's, - - - - -	36 00
“ Gould Island, late Joseph Wanton, - - -	3 00
all of which taxes so assessed, as aforesaid, were the payment of part of the Continental taxes assessed upon the town of Jamestown, for the months of January, February and March last,—	

It is therefore voted and resolved, that £114 9s., being the amount of the said several taxes, together with the interest on the same, be remitted to the said town of Jamestown, and deducted from the taxes assessed on the said town, for the said months of January, February and March last.

It is voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general, to hire a part of the house occupied by Mr. Daniel Jackson, for the use of Capt. Abimelech Riggs and his family, who is under the necessity of removing from the house he now lives in; it being taken up for the reception of Monsieur de Corny, and the said Abimelech Riggs not having it in his power to procure himself a house upon so short notice.

And in consideration of the other disadvantages which the said Abimelech Riggs must suffer from so sudden a removal,—

It is further recommended to the said Ephraim Bowen, to take no greater rent for the house he shall so hire, than the said Abimelech Riggs pays for the house he now occupies, during the time Monsieur de Corny shall improve the same.

It is voted and resolved, that Peter Phillips, Esq., and Mr. John Hawkins be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to procure the grass fit for mowing, on the state's farm, on Point Judith, to be immediately cut, made into hay, and stacked in proper places, upon the best terms they can; and that they secure the said hay as well as possible.

Whereas, by an act of this Assembly, passed at the last session, six hundred and ten effective men were ordered to be raised within this state, by the 1st day of July inst., to recruit the Continental battalions of this state; and although the same were apportioned to the respective towns within the state, some of the said towns have not yet returned a man, and others are greatly deficient; and whereas, this state hath been again called upon in the most pressing manner by Congress and the commander-in-chief imme-

diateley to furnish the men required, as well for the purpose of defence, as for co-operating with the shortly expected fleet and army of the illustrious ally of these states,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that the persons hereafter named be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed, to form all male persons whatsoever, of the age of sixteen years and upwards, residing within their respective towns (deserters, Indians, mulattoes and negroes excepted), into classes, according to the deficiencies of their said towns, having regard to the number of polls and value of estates of the persons so to be classed; and that they immediately give notice thereof to the persons classed; and each of the said classes is directed to furnish to the person or persons appointed by their respective towns to receive recruits, one able-bodied, effective man, by the 12th day of July instant.

And it is further enacted, that the following persons be appointed in the respective towns, for the purpose, aforesaid, to wit:

*Names of Persons appointed by the General Assembly for the several Towns to receive Recruits.*

Newport—Messrs. Robert Taylor, Job Easton, Christopher Ellery, William Taggart and John Topham.

Providence—Messrs. Joseph Nightingale, Nicholas Brown, Thomas Truman, Levi Hall, Amos Atwell, Zephaniah Andrews and Nathan Waterman.

Portsmouth—Messrs. David Giffard, Alexander Thomas and William Anthony, Jr.

Warwick—Messrs. Robert Rhodes, Thomas Rice (son of Thomas), Job Randall, Squire Miller and John Waterman.

Westerly—Messrs. William Pendleton, Joseph Crandall, James Babcock, Nathan Lanpher, Elkanah Babcock and Edward Saunders.

North Kingstown—Messrs. William Hammond, Joseph Coggeshall, Daniel Hall, Lawrence Pearce and James Albro.

South Kingstown—Messrs. Thomas Potter, John Gardner, Samuel Babcock, Robert Brown and Carder Hazard.

East Greenwich—Messrs. Job Pearce, Rufus Spencer, William Arnold, Isaac Johnson and Allen Johnson.

Jamestown—Messrs. Benjamin Underwood, John Gardner and George Tew.

Smithfield—Messrs. Peleg Arnold, John Sayles, John Angell, Andrew Waterman, Stephen Whipple, Ebenezer Trask and Edward Thompson.

Scituate—Messrs. Stephen Kimbal, Joseph Knight, Jonathan Knight, Coomer Smith, William Howland, Isaac Hopkins, Simeon Herenden and Benedict Whipple.

Glocester—Messrs. Chad Brown, John Smith, Stephen Winsor, Solomon Owen, Jonah Steere and Elisha Bartlett.

Charlestown—Messrs. Joseph Stanton, Jr., Joseph Hoxsie and James Congdon, Jr.

West Greenwich—Messrs. Joseph Hopkins, Jr., Samuel Hopkins, Thomas Josselyn, Jonathan Comstock and Thomas Gorton.

Coventry—Messrs. Stephen Potter, Samuel Wall, Archibald Kasson, William Burlingame and William Roy.

Exeter—Messrs. John Chapman, Jonathan Bates, Jr., George Peirce, Samuel Gorton and John Hoxsie.

Middletown—Messrs. Thomas Peckham, Oliver Durfee and Giles Sanford.

Bristol—Messrs. Peter Church, Charles DeWolfe, Shear-jashub Bourne, Jr., Josiah Finney and John Howland, Jr.

Tiverton—Messrs. John Cooke, Isaac Manchester, Lemuel Bailey, Pearce Perry and George Westcot.

Little Compton—Messrs. Nathaniel Church, Perez Richmond and Philip Taylor.

Warren—Messrs. Nathan Miller, Sylvester Child, Daniel Cole, Robert Carr and William Barto

Cumberland—Messrs. John Dexter, Simon Whipple, Geo. Peck, Nathan Staples and Nathaniel Shepardson.

Richmond—Messrs. Jonathan Maxson, Thomas Tefft, Edward Perry, George Webb and Richard Bailey, Jr.

Cranston—Messrs. Nehemiah Knight, Caleb Potter, Job Manchester, William Field and Richard Searle.

Hopkinton—Messrs. Edward Wells, John Maxson, Sam'l Babcock, William Thurston and Robert Burdick.

Johnston—Messrs. John Waterman, Noah Mathewson, Andrew Harris, Daniel Manton and William Latham.

North Providence—Messrs. Eleazer Jenckes, Eleazer Whipple, Hope Angell, Thomas Olney and Christopher Whipple.

Barrington—Messrs. Samuel Allen, John Short, Vial Allen, Thomas Allen and Nathaniel Smith.

It is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if either of the said classes shall refuse or neglect to furnish an able-bodied man, as aforesaid, within the time aforesaid, the persons appointed to class the said men, be, and they hereby are, empowered and directed thereupon to detach from the class which shall be deficient, as aforesaid, an able-bodied, effective man, to recruit the said battalions; that the person so detached, shall be entitled to the bounty, wages and allowances which are received by the persons who have enlisted, or may enlist into the said battalions, by virtue of the said act of Assembly, and such other allowances, if any, as shall be ordered by the persons who shall make such detachment, to be assessed upon the said delinquent class, agreeably to the proportion by which the last state tax was assessed upon the persons who compose the same; that in the said assessment the estates of all persons who are absent from this state, and all other estates, whether belonging to absentees or not, shall be considered, and shall be at a proportionable part of the expense that shall accrue to the class to which the same shall be put;

and that the said assessment be delivered to the collector of taxes of the town to which such delinquent class belongs, who is thereupon directed to collect and pay the same within the time, and agreeably to the orders he shall receive therewth.

It is further enacted, that the persons who shall make such detachment, make return thereof to the brigadier general, or one of the field officers of the regiment to which the person detached belongs; and it shall be the immediate business of such brigadier general or field officer, to cause the person so detached, to be, and appear, at Providence, by the 14th day of July instant, to be mustered, and join the battalion to which he shall be assigned to do duty therein, agreeably to the said act of this Assembly.

It is further enacted, that if any person who shall be detached as aforesaid, shall absent himself, and not be to be found, and shall not procure an able-bodied, effective man to do the duty in his stead, for which he shall be detached, as aforesaid, within the time aforesaid, such a part of the estate of the person so detached, shall be taken and disposed of by the persons who shall make such detachment, as shall be sufficient to procure an able-bodied man to do the said duty in his stead; and the persons making such detachment shall appropriate the money in procuring an able-bodied, effective man, accordingly; that if such person so detached, shall not be possessed of a sufficient estate for that purpose, the commanding officer of the regiment to which he belongs, shall advertise in all the public newspapers of this state, the person who shall absent himself, as aforesaid, as a delinquent, and offer a reward of £300, lawful money, to be paid by the state to the person or persons who shall apprehend such delinquent; that upon such delinquent being apprehended, the said officer is directed to deliver him to some one of the officers of the said Continental battalions, to do duty as a soldier, therein, for the space of one year; and that if any person who shall be classed, as aforesaid, shall not be to be found to be notified thereof, he shall be

proceeded against in manner as afore directed, in case he had not absented himself, and had been duly notified thereof.

And as a further encouragement to persons to enter into the public service, and to do the duty which may be assigned them, by this act,—

It is further enacted, that every four of the delinquents in the draughts made, in pursuance of resolutions of the council of war, of the 29th of July, and the 17th of August, A. D. 1778, be, and they are hereby, required to furnish an able-bodied, effective man, to make up the deficiency of such town; that the said delinquents be ascertained to the persons appointed to make detachments by the returns of their respective colonels, which have been or shall hereafter be made; that they be first classed, and be proceeded against, in case of delinquency, in manner as is herein directed; that if there shall not be a sufficient number of delinquents to form a class, as aforesaid, in any town within this state, the persons appointed to class them, as aforesaid, are empowered and directed to assess and collect from such delinquents, in manner as is before directed, such sum as shall be equal to their proportionable part of duty, as required of them by this act, allowing a class of four delinquents to be sufficient to procure a person to perform said duty; and that such of the said delinquents as shall not be engaged in the said service, in consequence of their being classed as aforesaid, be again classed with the other inhabitants of their respective towns, for the making up the further deficiency of their said towns, agreeably to this act.

And whereas, it is represented to this Assembly, that certain disaffected persons within this state, have greatly impeded the recruiting service; for prevention whereof in future,—

It is further enacted, that the persons appointed to class and detach as aforesaid, be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed, immediately to make inquiry into the same; that if it shall appear by sufficient proof that either

of the inhabitants of their said towns hath heretofore impeded or discouraged, or shall hereafter impede or discourage the enlisting or procuring the men to recruit the said battalions, agreeably to this and the former act of this Assembly, in such case the persons so appointed as aforesaid, are directed forthwith to detach such person, as a recruit, to do duty in the said battalions, agreeably to the said acts; and that such persons so detached, shall be reckoned to the town to which he belongs; and in case of delinquency shall be proceeded against as is herein directed.

It is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that a major part of the persons by this act appointed in either of the towns, to class and detach the said men, be, and they are hereby, constituted a committee for the purposes of their appointment, and empowered to act and do every thing in their respective towns by this act enjoined on them.

And whereas, the refusal or neglect of the persons by this act appointed to class and detach the men, &c., will defeat the important purposes thereof,—

It is therefore further enacted, that if either of the said persons appointed as aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to class or detach said men, who may be deficient as aforesaid, within the time aforesaid, or who shall not perform the other duties enjoined upon him by this act, for bringing the said men into the field, and shall thereof be convicted by the verdict of his peers, before the superior court of judicature, court of assize and general jail delivery, in the county where such offender shall dwell, the person so convicted, shall be adjudged and sentenced by the said court to be forever incapable of bearing any office, civil or military, within this state; and also to pay all costs of prosecution and conviction; provided, that process shall be commenced against such delinquent within six months from such delinquency, and not after.

It is further enacted, that the general, field and commissioned officers of the militia within this state, be, and they

are hereby, called upon and directed to afford their utmost aid and assistance in carrying this act into execution.

And it is further enacted, that the secretary immediately cause this act to be printed, and send a copy thereof to each of the town clerks in this state, who are hereby empowered and directed, immediately on the receipt thereof, to convene every male inhabitant in their respective towns, who are subject to be classed as aforesaid, so that the execution of this act may not be in the least delayed.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Jonathan Jenkins be, and he is hereby, permitted to proceed with his vessel from the port of Providence to the island of Nantucket; and that the said Jonathan Jenkins carry no inhabitants of this state in the said vessel, either for navigating the same, or for any other purpose.

Whereas, William Mathewson, of West Greenwich, hath been impeached before this Assembly, for obstructing the recruiting service; and the said charge hath been fully proved, as well by the testimony of witnesses as by the confession of the said William Mathewson, who discovers a penitent disposition, and a desire to make every reparation in his power to atone for his offence,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the committee appointed for recruiting men for the public service in the said town, be, and they are hereby, empowered to receive of the said William Mathewson a sum of money sufficient for enlisting one able-bodied and effective soldier, for the service aforesaid; and that the said money be expended accordingly.

It is further voted and resolved, that if, upon the application of the said committee, the said William Mathewson shall refuse to advance a sum of money sufficient for the purpose aforesaid, then the said committee be, and they are hereby, directed to make distress upon his estate, and cause sale thereof immediately to be made, and account with the town council of the said town; and that the said William Mathewson pay all cost accruing by means of the premises,

and give bond to the general treasurer in the sum of £500, in silver or gold, for his good behaviour, for the space of two years, to be levied upon his real estate, in case of any breach of the condition of the said bond.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. James Franklin, William Greene, Caleb Seamans, James Andrews, John Cole, Jr., George Baker, Rufus Cole, Benjamin Taylor, Christopher Bullock, John Colvin, James Fenner, Robert Knight, Jabez Bowen, William Round, John Round, Jr., Nathaniel Horton, Robert Davis, Edward Howland, Geo. Howland, Stephen Smith, Jr., Daniel Howard, Silas Herrington, John Herrington, John Randall, Stephen Foster, Jonathan Cole, John Perkins, Jonathan Twogood, John Tyler, Peter Parker, Jr., Hezekiah Wheeler, Nathaniel Herrington, Edw. Dorr, Joshua Jones, Charles Potter, Stephen Place, Jr. and Simon Davis, inhabitants of the town of Scituate, be, and they are hereby, permitted to sign the test required by law, before the town council of the said town of Scituate; and that thereupon they shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of free-born citizens of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that George Gorton and John Greene (son of Increase), both of Coventry, be, and they are hereby, permitted to subscribe the test required by law, before the town council of the said town; and that thereupon they be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of free-born citizens of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Ward be, and he is hereby, empowered to receive out of the general treasury, for the use of the officers and soldiers in Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment, £5,208, lawful money; that he also be empowered to receive, for the use of the officers and privates in Colonel Israel Angell's regiment, £21,792, lawful money, which sums are advanced to the said regiments on their depreciation accounts; and that the said Samuel Ward forward the money for Col. Israel Angell's regiment to the paymaster of the said regiment, by the first safe conveyance.

It is further voted and resolved, that the agent-clothier for this state send forward, by the new recruits, or any other safe conveyance, to Colonel Israel Angell's regiment, two hundred and seventy-one shirts, and the same number of overalls, for the use of the non-commissioned officers and privates of the said regiment.

Whereas, divers complaints have been made by the soldiers who have served in this state's battalions, that the clothing which was promised them for their services has not been delivered, agreeably to the stipulations of the state, which causeth much uneasiness, and greatly retards the recruiting service; and whereas, it is the intention of this state that the strictest justice shall be done unto the soldiery,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Nathan Miller, Esek Hopkins and Adam Comstock, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee, to inquire, by the best ways and means they can devise, what clothing is due to the soldiers, and to whom, and what distribution has been made of the clothing already provided by the state; and that they make report as soon as may be.

Whereas, it appears by the certificate of Captain Stephen Olney, paymaster of Colonel Israel Angell's battalion, that one coat, one pair of breeches, two pair of hose and one pair of shoes, are due to Alding Southworth, late a soldier in the said battalion,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the agent-clothier of this state be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver the aforesaid articles of clothing unto the said Alding Southworth.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that at the superior court of judicature, &c., which was held at Tiverton, on the last Monday of June last, a trial was had on a certain information, exhibited by the attorney general against Samuel Dyer, in which he was charged with having adhered to, aided and assisted the common enemy of these United States; that although the charge was fully proved,

the said Samuel Dyer was thereof acquitted by the jury empannelled to try the same; and that since the said trial, it hath appeared, by information received from some of the said jury, that undue measures had been taken to influence others of the said jury to give a verdict in favor of the said Samuel Dyer,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that William Taggart and William Richmond, Esqs., and Mr. William Ladd be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the conduct of the said jury on the said trial; and that they make report to this Assembly at the next session.

And whereas, it also appears to this Assembly, that the said Samuel Dyer's being at large within this state, is dangerous to the peace and safety of the same,—

It is further voted and resolved, that the said Sam'l Dyer be confined to his estate, in the town of Newport, until the further orders of this Assembly; and that he enter into a recognizance to the Governor and Company of this state, before either of the justices of the peace of the town of Newport, in the sum of £2,000, in gold or silver, conditioned for his confining himself to his said estate, and being of good behaviour; and that if the said Samuel Dyer shall refuse to enter into the said recognizance, or shall transgress the limits to which he is confined, as aforesaid, the sheriff of the county of Newport be, and he is hereby, directed to apprehend and confine him in the jail, in the county of Newport, until the further orders of this Assembly.

And whereas, John Forrester, of Newport, yeoman, was also acquitted at the said court, upon a bill of indictment found by the grand jury, charging him with treason against the state, and was afterwards ordered by the said court to recognize for his good behaviour, which he hath not as yet performed,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said John Forrester immediately enter into a recognizance, agreeably to the order of the said court; and that upon failure thereof,

he be committed by the said sheriff of the county of Newport, or his deputy, to the jail aforesaid.

And whereas, the peace, safety and happiness of this state require that the disaffected persons, and those who have heretofore aided and assisted the enemy, now residing within this state, should be known, that they may be proceeded against as to law and justice appertains.—

It is therefore further voted and resolved, that Messrs. Robert Taylor, Job Easton, Christopher Ellery, William Taggart and John Topham be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the conduct of persons residing on the island of Rhode Island, as well of those who have been already charged, as also of all others who have voluntarily aided and assisted the enemies of this state; that the said committee also make inquiry into the conduct of the wives and families of those persons who have joined the enemy, and make report to this Assembly, at the next session, of such as ought to be removed from this state.

And it is further voted and resolved, that any person bringing from, or carrying any letter or letters to New York, or other place, in possession of the enemy, unless the same shall, previous to its being sent, or delivered, be inspected by the Governor, Deputy Governor, or the attorney general of this state, or the commanding officer within this department; and such inspection endorsed on the outside of the said letter or letters, he or she shall be proceeded against as an offender; and it is hereby recommended to every person discovering such practice, to apprehend the person so offending, and take him or her before any justice of the peace, who is hereby directed to commit him or her to prison, until the further orders of this Assembly.

The petition of Jonathan Arnold, Jr., in behalf of himself and the owners of the schooner Polly, preferred unto this Assembly, representing that the said schooner was fitted for a voyage to the West Indies, and that application was made to the proper officer, for a clearance for the said vessel, before the resolution of the council of war, laying an embargo

within this state, was made ; and praying that the said vessel might be permitted to proceed on her said voyage, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be granted ; provided, none of the inhabitants of this state are carried in the said vessel, either as hands, passengers or otherwise.

Whereas, the town of South Kingstown's proportion of the men to be raised for six months, for filling up the Continental battalion (owing to the large proportion of taxes which they pay), is much greater than any other town's within this state, in proportion to the number of the inhabitants therein ; and as this General Assembly, under the peculiar circumstances of the said town, are willing to grant them every reasonable indulgence that can possibly be admitted from the exigencies of affairs,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that four days from the 12th of this current July, be, and hereby is, granted and given unto the said town of South Kingstown, for raising and completing their quota of men, as aforesaid ; and that after the 12th day of this current July, as aforesaid, the said town of South Kingstown have liberty to enlist twenty men for filling up their quota in any part of this state ; which men shall be reckoned and accounted for the said town's proportion.

Provided nevertheless, that the men assigned the said town, shall be classed at the time, and agreeably to the act of this Assembly, passed at the present session ; and if the said men, or any part of them, shall not be procured within the time aforesaid, then the persons appointed for that purpose, shall, on the 16th day of July instant, detach from each delinquent class an able-bodied man ; and that every other measure be thereupon taken for bringing the said men into the field, as is in and by the aforesaid act directed.

Whereas, Bernard George Penrose, late a physician and surgeon in the British navy, preferred a petition unto this

Assembly, representing that he hath intermarried in this state, and praying that he may reside therein, as an inhabitant thereof, and as such to be deemed and taken; and whereas, a number of the principal inhabitants of the town of Newport also joined in the prayer of the said petition,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be granted; that the said Bernard George Penrose be, and he is hereby, permitted to come into this state; that he be considered as a citizen thereof, upon his taking the oath of allegiance to the same; and that the secretary be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to administer the said oath.

It is voted and resolved, that Miss Martha Chaloner, daughter of John Chaloner, late of Newport, deceased, be, and she is hereby, permitted to proceed to New York, under the direction of Major General Heath.

Whereas, by a resolution of this Assembly, passed at the present session, the house of Major Nathaniel Greene, of Woodstock, is taken up for the residence of Monsieur De Corny, and as the same may be liable to damage, which ought to be borne by the public,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Messrs. Jonathan Hammond, John Carpenter and Joseph Martin be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to view the said house, with the other buildings and appurtenances thereunto belonging; and also such furniture as is therein, and the same to re-view when they shall be left by Monsieur De Corny, and to determine what damage, if any, the said Nathaniel Greene shall have sustained, either in the said buildings or other things, by the same's being occupied by the said Monsieur DeCorny, in order that he may have compensation therefor.

It is voted and resolved, that the beef and pork now in the hands of Richard Fry, Esq.; and also the corn now in the hands of the said Richard Fry, and of William Bradford, Esq., belonging to this state, be delivered to Solomon

Southwick, Esq., deputy commissary general of issues in this state, they taking his receipts for the same; and that the said provisions be considered as part of this state's quota of supplies.

An Act to prevent certain persons therein named, and others, who have left this state, or either of the United States of America, and joined the enemy; or who have joined the enemy in this state, from being admitted within this state.

Whereas, Joseph Wanton, Jr., Esq.; William Wanton, merchant; Joseph Durfee, mariner; Lynn Martin, mariner; John Mawdfley, merchant; Walter Chaloner, Esq.; Edward Thurston, merchant; George Rome, merchant; Samuel Whitehorne, merchant; Mathew Cozzens, merchant; John Freebody, mariner; Jas. Clarke, Esq.; James Clarke, cordwainer; Richard Beale, Esq.; John Nichols, Esq.; Thomas Bannister, gentleman; Jahleel Brenton, gentleman; John Nichols, trader; Isaac Hart, Sam. Hart, Moses Hart, Sam. Hart, Jr., merchants; John Watson, merchant; Sam. Goldthwait, merchant; Samuel Bourne, merchant; Edw. Mumford, merchant; Geo. Bisset, clerk; Isaac Lawton, merchant; Steph. Deblouis, merchant; Rob't Ferguson, merchant; John Andrews, mariner; James Nixon, Jr., merchant, all late of Newport, in the county of Newport; Joseph Mumford, late of Providence, in the county of Providence, trader; George Wightman, yeoman; Samuel Boone, yeoman; Thomas Hazard, yeoman, all late of North Kingstown, in the county of Kings; and Samuel Wilson, late of South Kingstown, in the said county of Kings, yeoman, have left this state, and have joined the enemies thereof, thereby not only depriving these states of their personal services, at a time when they ought to have afforded their utmost aid in defending the said states against the invasions of a cruel enemy, but manifesting an inimical disposition to the said states, and a design to aid and abet the enemies thereof, in their wicked purposes,—

It is therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, that if the said Joseph Wanton, Jr., William Wanton, Joseph Durfee, Lynn Martin, John Mawdfley, Walter Chaloner, Edward Thurston, George Rome, Samuel Whitechorne, Matthew Cozzens, John Freebody, James Clarke, Esq.; James Clarke, cordwainer; Richard Beale, John Nichols, Esq.; John Nichols, trader; Thos. Bannister, Jahleel Brenton, Isaac Hart, Samuel Hart, Sam'l Hart, Jr., Moses Hart, John Watson, Samuel Goldthwait, Samuel Bours, Edward Mumford, George Bisset, Isaac Lawton, James Nixon, Jr., Joseph Mumford, George Wightman, Samuel Boone, Samuel Wilson, shall, after the passing of this act, return into this state, it shall be the duty of the sheriff of the county, of his deputies, of the town sergents and constables, and other inhabitants of the town wherein such person or persons may presume to come or be found; and they are hereby respectively empowered and directed, forthwith to apprehend and carry such person or persons before any one of the assistants, or justices of the superior or inferior court, in the county where such person or persons shall be found, who is hereby required to commit him or them to either of the common jails within this state, there in close custody to remain, until he or they shall be sent out of the state, as is herein after directed; and such assistant, or justice, is hereby directed to give immediate information thereof to the Governor of this state, for the time being; and that thereupon the Governor of this state, for the time being, cause such person or persons so committed, to be transported to some part or place within the dominion or in the possession of the forces of the king of Great Britain, as soon as may be, after receiving such information; those who are able at their own expense, and others at the expense of this state; and for this purpose, to hire a vessel or vessels, if need be.

And whereas, divers other persons not herein particularly named, have been guilty in like manner with those persons above named,—

Be it therefore further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any such person or persons shall, after the passing of this act, return into this state, it shall be the duty of each of the assistants and justices of the superior and inferior courts in this state, and they are hereby required, upon knowledge or credible information thereof, to cause such person or persons to be apprehended and committed to either of the common jails in the county where he or they may be found, there to remain in close custody, until legally discharged ; and such assistant or justice shall make report of his doings to the General Assembly, who shall make inquiry into the matter, and upon finding such person or persons guilty, as aforesaid, take order for his or their being transported out of this state, in manner as above directed for the persons particularly named in this act.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any person or persons, who shall be transported, as aforesaid, shall voluntarily return into this state, without liberty first had and obtained from the General Assembly, he or they shall, on conviction thereof before the superior court of judicature, court of assize and general jail delivery, for the county in which such person or persons shall be apprehended, suffer the pains of death, without the benefit of clergy.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if the master of any ship or vessel shall, after the passing of this act, knowingly bring into any port in this state, any person transported by virtue of this act, or if any person shall willfully or willingly harbor or conceal such person so transported, after his return to this state, contrary to the design of this act, such master or person so offending, shall, on conviction thereof before the inferior court of common pleas, in the county where such offence shall be committed, or before the superior court of judicature for the same county, forfeit the sum of £5,000 ; one-half thereof, to the use of this state, and the other half to the use of them who shall sue for the same.

And the secretary is directed to cause this act to be published in all the newspapers in this state; and to transmit copies thereof, to the several town clerks in this state, as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that the officers to be appointed to fill up the vacancies in Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment, be chosen for six months, and no longer; and that it be recommended to His Excellency General Washington, to commission them accordingly.

Both Houses being resolved into a grand committee, chose the following officers, to wit:

*Civil and Military Officers Chosen.*

Samuel Fowler, Esq., sixth assistant of this state, in the room of Gideon Wanton, Esq., who hath resigned.

Christopher Ellery, Esq., tenth assistant, in the room of Caleb Gardner, Esq., who declined; and the said Christopher Ellery appeared and took his engagement.

Philip Traffan and Samuel Snow, captains; John Millar and James Millar, lieutenants in Col. Christopher Greene's regiment.

*Officers in the First Battalion of Militia, in the County of Kings.*

Artillery Company—James Babcock, captain-lieutenant; Ichabod Burdick, lieutenant.

Troop of Horse—George Thurston, captain; Ichabod Babcock, Jr. cornet.

Senior Class Company—Nathan Barber, captain; Joseph Maxson, lieutenant; Peter Berry, ensign.

First company—Oliver Lewis, captain; Thomas Brand, lieutenant; Nathan Pendleton, ensign.

Second company—William Bliven, captain; Joseph Peckham, lieutenant; Walter White, ensign.

Third company—George Stillman, captain; Peleg Saunders, lieutenant; Asa Maxson, ensign.

Charlestown. Senior Class Company—Joseph Wilcox, captain; Samuel Thompson, lieutenant; Charles Church, ensign.

First company—John Parke, captain; Christopher Babcock, Jr., lieutenant; John Taylor, ensign.

Second company—Beriah Lewis, captain; Peleg Cross, Jr., lieutenant; John Greene, ensign.

Hopkinton. Senior Class Company—Thomas Wells, 2d, captain; Elias Coone, lieutenant; John Peirce, ensign.

First company—Henry Welles, captain; Sylvanus Maxson, lieutenant; Thomas Welles, 3d, ensign.

Second company—Randall Welles, captain; Joseph Maxson, lieutenant; Billings Burch, ensign.

Third company—Phineas Maxson, captain; Geo. Maxson, lieutenant; Zaccheus Maxson, ensign.

*Officers in the Second Battalion of Militia, in the County of Newport.*

Tiverton. First company—Philip Corey, captain; Philip Manchester, lieutenant; Peleg Simmons, ensign.

Second company—Jonathan Devol, captain; Benj. Howland, lieutenant; Weaver, Osborne, ensign.

Third company—Richard Durfee, captain; ——— Shearman, lieutenant; Thomas Durfee, Jr., ensign.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency Gen. Washington be requested to pardon the deserters from the troops of this state, who shall join their respective corps by a time he may think proper to fix; and that Major General Heath be requested to issue a pardon for the deserters from Col. Christopher Greene's regiment, who shall join the said regiment by the time he may think proper to fix.

Whereas, John Reynolds, Esq., clothier in this state, has been directd to send on to Col. Israel Angell's regiment, two hundred and seventy-one pair of overalls, and the like number of shirts; and as there will not be a sufficient num-

ber of the said articles remaining to furnish the recruits, agreeably to an act passed at the last session of this Assembly,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said John Reynolds be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of £9,000, lawful money, out of the general treasury, to enable him to re-place the same number of shirts and overalls, ordered to be sent on, as aforesaid.

It is voted and resolved, that all vessels (privateers and those carrying letters of marque excepted,) be, and they are hereby, permitted to proceed to sea from any port of this state, upon the masters or owners of such vessels producing a certificate to the intendants of trade, from the town clerks of the towns to which the masters and hands, or any others on board such vessels respectively belong (if inhabitants of this state), that the full quotas of men assigned the said towns, by an act of this Assembly passed at the last session, are raised; and that the said masters, previous to their obtaining a clearance for such vessels, make oath in the said intendant's office, that they have not any man or men on board the said vessels belonging to any town in this state, from the town clerk of which they do not produce a certificate, as aforesaid.

It is further voted and resolved, that vessels carrying letters of marque, be, and they are hereby, permitted to proceed to sea, subject to the restrictions, aforesaid; and further, that they carry not more than twelve men, officers included.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer of this state, be allowed and paid \$40,000, out of the general treasury, for his services the year past; and that John Jenckes, Esek Hopkins and Metcalf Bowler, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to audit his accounts,

It is voted and resolved, that Robert Taylor, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed one of the committee for classing and detaching the men in the town of Providence, in the

room of Levi Hall, Esq., who is under the necessity of attending a law suit in the commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The report of Ephraim Bowen, Jr., deputy quartermaster general, and Nathan Miller, Esqs., who were appointed a committee, to examine the brick school house, in Providence, and to ascertain what repairs were necessary to be made upon the same, for the reception of the students of the college in the said town, being laid before this Assembly, and duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to the said Ephraim Bowen, to remove the public stores from the said building, and to cause the same to be repaired, agreeably to the said report.

Whereas, Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general, represented unto this Assembly, that the money granted him by this Assembly, and the council of war, to repair boats and hospitals for the French army, is entirely expended; and that he hath need of a further sum to complete the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Ephraim Bowen be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of £10,000, lawful money, out of the general treasury, for the purposes aforesaid; and for making such repairs at Providence, Warren and Bristol ferries, as are necessary; and that he account for the same.

Upon the memorial of Lewis Ethis DeCorny, Esq., commissary general of war of His Most Christian Majesty, and orderer for the execution of commands of His abovesaid Majesty, relative to the French army sent into America, presented unto this Assembly, respecting the ferries between Providence and Newport, and his request that the same may be put in repair, in order to facilitate the operations of the expected armament of His said Majesty,—

It is voted and resolved, that the Honorable William Bradford, Esq., Brigadier General Nathan Miller and Colonel Joseph Nightingale be, and they are hereby, appointed a

committee to wait on the said Lewis Ethis DeCorny, on the subject matter of the said memorial, and inform him that this General Assembly is disposed to take every possible measure for the accommodation of the expected armament of our generous ally, and for the facilitating the important objects of their destination ; and that they have furnished Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general, with money, and directed him to make the necessary repairs at the said ferries, under the direction of the said committee.

Whereas, many towns in this state have not paid into the general treasury their proportion of the state and Continental taxes, which have been assessed upon them, within the time required by the acts for assessing the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to issue his warrants on the 14th instant, against the several town treasurers of such delinquent towns; and that in future he issue his warrants against such towns as shall neglect to pay their taxes monthly, as directed by the several acts for assessing the same.

Whereas, the town of Coventry hath neglected to assess their proportion of the tax ordered by this Assembly at the session in May last, by reason of a division in the said town, respecting the mode of assessing the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the time for levying, collecting and paying one-third part of the last state and Continental taxes, in the town of Coventry, for the months of June, July and August, which was directed by the act assessing the same, to be paid into the general treasury by the 1st day of July instant, be lengthened; and that the same be levied, collected and paid into the general treasury, on or before the 1st day of August next, together with the interest on the same.

Upon the draught of a letter to Colonel Israel Angell,

and the other officers and men, belonging to the Second Rhode Island regiment, presented unto this Assembly,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be approved; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to sign and transmit a copy thereof,\* to Colonel Israel Angell.

Whereas, Joseph Wilson, of Providence, has applied to

\* *The General Assembly of Rhode Island to Colonel Israel Angell, Officers and Men, belonging to the Second Rhode Island Regiment.*

State of Rhode Island, &c. }  
In General Assembly. }

Providence, July 7th, 1780.

Gentlemen:—It gives the General Assembly the highest satisfaction to be informed, in a letter from His Excellency General Washington, that “The gallant behaviour of Col. Angell’s regiment on the 23d of June, at Springfield, reflects the highest honor on the officers and men; that they disputed an important pass with so obstinate a bravery, that they lost upwards of forty in killed, wounded and missing, before they gave up the ground to a vast superiority of force.”

This honorable testimony of the good services of a regiment, which has ever done honor to our state, by their bravery on all occasions in the hour of danger, adds to the character they have always sustained in the American army, and the sufferings they have cheerfully undergone in the defence of the rights of their country, excite the warmest gratitude of the General Assembly, who are always disposed to reward merit so distinguished. We condole with those who suffer from the wounds they have received. But as they are the badges of bravery, it might be some consolation to the sufferers that they thereby have a most indisputable claim to the esteem and respect of their country.

We cannot omit this opportunity of returning our most sincere thanks to the officers and soldiers in general, belonging to the regiment, for that bravery, patriotism and perseverance, and those military virtues manifested on all occasions so similar to those exhibited by the famous legions of ancient Rome, in the shining periods of the history of that republic; and it gives us the most sensible pleasure to reflect that the historic page of America will not pass over in silence the services of a regiment of ours so meritorious.

It gives us great anxiety that, from the unhappy situation of our currency for several years past, the pay of the regiment has fallen so far short of their services. When we have taken measures for making payment, which we thought would be adequate, the depreciation of the money has defeated our intention. The great exertions we have been obliged to make on account of the enemy having had possession of Rhode Island, have prevented our doing for the regiment what we wished. And from causes which we could not prevent, it has so happened that a large balance has now become due to the regiment on account of the depreciation. We feel the obligation, and are anxious to discharge it; but the calls of the present campaign are great and urgent. We have therefore now been able only to send you the sum of £21,792, as a small part of the balance. But the regiment may be assured that as the General Assembly as well as the people at large, have the highest sense of their merit, and are anxious to make them full and ample compensation. That at the next session of the General Assembly, which will be on the third Monday of July instant, the most certain and effectual measures will be taken for paying a very considerable part of the remaining balance.

We have received Col. Angell’s letter of the 30th ult., and have ordered the shirts and overalls which he wrote for to be forwarded as soon as possible to the regiment, and shall make every exertion in our power that the pay, clothing and supplies from the state shall in future be made in the most punctual manner.

We are, gentlemen, with esteem and gratitude,

Your most obedient, humble servants.

Signed at the request, and in behalf of the General Assembly,

WILLIAM GREENE.

To Col. Angell and the other officers and men of the Second Rhode Island Battalion, in the army of the United States.

this Assembly, to hire the building for manufacturing salt petre, belonging to this state, on the land of Colonel John Mathewson, in the town of Providence ; and this Assembly at present having no use for the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the Honorable Jabez Bowen and Theodore Foster, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to examine into the circumstances of the said building, and the terms upon which the state now holds the land where the same is erected ; and that the said committee, if they shall think fit, permit the said Josph Wilson to improve the same, upon his contracting to pay a proper rent therefor, and to deliver up the same when demanded.

Voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Subsistence abstracts for Capt. Henry Dayton's company .....	1,744 04 0
William Taggart, for outfits of brigantine Success, sent to Turks Island for salt.....	368 00 0
Thomas Tillinghast, for settling depreciation with the army.....	194 06 0
Metcalf Bowler, for paper for printing money bills on, \$270.	
Samuel Babcock, for carrying money for the recruiting service.....	120 00 0
Joseph Stanton, Jr., for his expenses as one of a committee upon public service.....	120 00 0
John Collins, for balance due him.....	11,475 15 3
Esek Hopkins, for services in settling depreciation accounts with the army	330 00 0
Benjamin Bourne, " " " " " "	300 00 0
William Mumford, " " " " " "	300 00 0
Richard Smith, for notifying the members of the General Assembly.....	42 00 0
Christopher Babcock, Jr., for pay abstracts of the Charlestown guards....	77 04 00
Metcalf Bowler, Thomas Rumreill, Caleb Harris, Adam Comstock and Benoni Pearce, as their commissions for signing money bills emitted by the state .....	33 06 8
Metcalf Bowler, to purchase two reams of paper on which to print the money bills emitted by the state, \$600, Continental money.	
Bennett Wheeler, for printing for the state .....	22 12 9
Esek Hopkins, for his expenses in superintending the press for striking off the money bills emitted by the state, \$1,000.	
Benjamin Bourne, for paper furnished, and for his attendance upon the General Assembly, as clerk .....	219 00 0
William Mumford, for his attendance upon the General Assembly, as depu- ty secretary, and as auditor of accounts.....	150 00 0

Henry Tanner, of West Greenwich, for collecting thirty-eight blankets....	21 00 0
Benjamin F. Carlile, for services as waiter upon the General Assembly ...	54 18 0
Daniel Branch,	78 00 0
William Compton,	72 00 0

God save the United States of America.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to Gen. Washington.*

Warwick, state of Rhode Island,  
June 6th, 2780. }

Sir:—I received Your Excellency's favor of the 25th ult., by Dr. Craick, and laid it before the council of war; who have appointed a person to assist him in procuring suitable buildings for the reception of the sick; likewise to provide such necessaries as the doctor may require; shall afford every assistance in my power, to effect the purpose of his errand here.

I am with esteem and regard,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. GREENE.

To His Excellency General Washington.

*Governor Trumbull, of Connecticut, to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Hartford, 8th June, 1780.

Sir:—I have this day received per Mr. Murray, your letter of the 5th inst.; the contents will be laid before the Council.

The requisitions from the army, the French minister, &c., for this state for supplies, are such and so great, that a full compliance will be difficult to obtain, though every effort for the purpose in the present conjuncture, will be exerted; in these circumstances, it will require some attention to determine every matter of supply. In the mean time, Mr. Murray returns in expectation of an answer to Your Excellency as soon as our determination can be made, which you may depend on.

Per Mr. Murray I take the liberty to enclose the letters I have received from the westward, and desire Your Excellency to forward those to Massachusetts and New Hampshire, with all possible dispatch.

With sentiments of esteem and regard, I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

JON'TH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*General Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Springfield, {  
10th June, 1780. }

Sir:—I have the honor to introduce to you Mr. DeCorny, commissary of war in the service of His Most Christian Majesty. This gentleman is charged with the important trust of procuring the necessary supplies of every sort, for the French army, on which business he is now proceeding to the eastern states.

I have given him this letter for Your Excellency, to request you will afford him all the assistance in your power towards accomplishing the objects of his mission in their fullest extent. I have also assured him that you will be happy in the opportunity of

facilitating his operations in every way that may contribute to the success of the combined operations. Gratitude for so generous a succor, and the interest of these states, unite in requiring this of us; Your Excellency's zeal makes it unnecessary to suggest motives.

I take the liberty to recommend Mr. DeCorny to Your Excellency's particular attention. His personal merit and zeal in the common cause, entitle him to every mark of consideration. I have the honor to be, with perfect respect and esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,  
GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Committee of Congress to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

In Committee of Congress, }  
Morristown, June 23, 1780. }

Sir:—Impressed with the necessity of giving you the earliest information of every important occurrence, we therefore enclose you a copy of a letter from the commander-in-chief this moment received.

From the accumulated distresses of our army, which we are daily spectators of, the jeopardy we have twice seen them in, and the fatal consequences that must have resulted from a defeat (which would inevitably have been the consequence, had the enemy at first, and still will be, should they even now pursue their object), we are constrained again to call on you in the most pressing manner, to forward your quota of men and supplies, agreeably to our estimate of the 2d inst., and prevent the total sacrifice of the few brave and intrepid spirits that at present compose our army, and avoid the indelible stain that must consequently be fixed on these states, should such an event take place.

We are, with the highest respect,

Your most obedient servants,  
J. W. MATHEWS,  
NATH'L PEABODY.

To His Excellency William Greene, Esq.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to Gen. Washington.*

Providence, June 25, 1780.

Sir:—I have the honor to enclose you a resolve of the council of war of this day, in consequence of a letter from the committee of Congress of the 12th inst., enclosing yours of the 11th, wherein the committee most earnestly conjure us to send forward the troops of this state without delay.

The council being apprehensive that the measure taken by the aforesaid resolve, might interfere with Your Excellency's orders, and anxious to furnish you the most speedy reinforcements of this state's quota, have requested me to write Your Excellency on this subject, that your pleasure thereon might be known.

The General Assembly have ordered six hundred and ten men to be raised, to complete this state's quota; and for that purpose, have proportioned them to the several towns, to be raised and rendezvoused at this place by the 1st day of July; some are already raised; and every exertion of government will be made to complete this number, as well as to furnish the supplies required by the committee.

Your Excellency may be assured this state will make every exertion in their power to answer the expectations of the public.

I am, with the utmost esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,  
W. GREENE.

To General Washington

*Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Ramapaugh, 29th June, 1780.

Sir:—I was yesterday honored with Your Excellency's favor of the 25th, enclosing a recommendation of the council of war, to General Heath, to order Colonel Greene's regiment to march immediately to join the army, leaving as many officers as possible to bring forward the drafts directed to be raised for completing the battalions of the state. Col. Greene's regiment being too small to afford any material reinforcement, and being usefully employed where it is at present, I have thought it most advisable for it to remain until the greater part of the drafts are collected; when I have desired Gen. Heath to put them in motion, at the same time detaining a few officers to collect and bring up the remaining levies. Upon their joining the army, I shall dispose of them in such manner as will make the regiments equal in point of numbers.

The gallant behaviour of Col. Angell's regiment on the 23d inst., at Springfield, reflects the highest honor upon the officers and men. They disputed an important pass with so obstinate a bravery, that they lost upwards of forty in killed, wounded and missing, before they gave up their ground to a vast superiority of force.

The ready and ample manner in which your state has complied with the requisitions of the committee of co-operation, both as to men and supplies, entitles her to the thanks of the public, and affords the highest satisfaction to, sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
GEO. WASHINGTON.

To Governor Greene.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress,  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Philadelphia, 29th June, 1780.

Sir:—The urgent necessity of drawing into the public treasury the \$10,000,000 mentioned in the act of the 19th of May, was so fully pointed out, that Congress exceedingly regret the failure of this necessary supply. The conjuncture is already arrived, when it is become essential not only to the operations of this campaign, but to the very existence of the army.

Congress therefore can no longer delay reiterating the most importunate solicitations, that the proportions of each of the states be forwarded immediately. For this purpose, they have dispatched a special messenger, and they trust he will not meet with disappointment.

A further sum must also be speedily had, or it will be impossible for the operations to proceed. Congress have therefore drawn on these states for the remainder of their quotas to the 1st of March last, inclusive; and it is their duty to conjure the several states, if they should still be unprepared, that they will at all events, transmit their arrears to the period last mentioned, to the Continental treasury, within thirty days from the date of the warrants.

The monthly estimates of money heretofore made, were but barely sufficient at that time; their value has since greatly diminished, and the payment has been delayed long after it became due. These circumstances have already involved our affairs in much perplexity, and driven to expedients which nothing but the last necessity could justify; permanency and arrangement in the public finances, must at every hazard, be introduced and supported.

In this view, Congress do again, with the most earnest solicitude, press on the sev-

eral states the necessity of vigorous and decisive measures for carrying into full and immediate execution their resolutions of the 18th of March last. The doing which, at the same time that it places credit on the surest basis, will, in the course of the year, give all the relief that could possibly result from a further emission equal to the whole that is now in circulation. These resolutions, Congress are persuaded are every day better understood; and that upon giving them their full effect, very much depends the final establishment of our liberties.

It is unnecessary that Congress should suggest to the several states the expediency of providing by loans against any deficiency they may have reason to apprehend from their taxes.

The blank bills for the several states will be forwarded as fast as the acts of their Assemblies providing funds for them, are transmitted to Congress.

By order of Congress,  
SAMUEL HUNTINGTON, President.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly, for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Newport, on the third Monday in July, 1780.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. William West, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. John Handy be, and he is hereby, appointed auditor of accounts, during the present session of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that John I. Clark, Wm. Channing, Rowse J. Helme, Metcalf Bowler and Benj. Bourne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draught a congratulatory address to the commanders of the French army and fleet, on their arrival in this state.

It is voted and resolved, that Metcalf Bowler, Thomas Rumreill and Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draught an answer to a letter from Governor Trumbull, requesting the appointment of a person to meet the deputies from the New England states, at Boston, for the purposes in the said letter mentioned; and that the said committee also draught a letter to the president of the council of the commonwealth of

Massachusetts, requesting them to concur in the measures proposed.\*

Whereas, it hath been represented unto this Assembly, that Samuel Jones, of New London, in the state of Connecticut, was confined in the jail, in the town of Providence, by order of the inferior court of common pleas, for the county of Providence, for theft; and whereas, the said Samuel Jones was enlisted out of the said jail, and returned as a recruit toward the quota of the said town of Providence, contrary to the laws of this state; whereby the due course of justice has been interrupted,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the class for which the said Samuel Jones was enlisted, be, and it is hereby, ordered to furnish an able-bodied and effective man, duly qualified to pass muster, in the room of the said Samuel Jones, by the 24th instant; and that upon failure thereof, the committee for classing and detaching the men in the said town of Providence, be, and they are hereby, directed to de-

*\*Governor Trumbull of Connecticut, to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Lebanon, 14th July, 1780.

Sir:—The late arrangement of our public affairs, the disconcerted state of the commissary department, the large demands upon the New England states for supplies for the army, and the regular manner in which those supplies ought to be furnished, especially of fresh provisions, so as to prevent a want at one time, or a surplus at another, the large demands for the army and navy of our ally, which are now arrived, to be supplied by these states; as such as also the market, which, by their arrival, will be opened for a variety of articles to be supplied by individuals; not only to prevent a disappointment of their expectations in their supplies, but of their being imposed and extorted upon by extravagant prices by individuals, which may greatly endanger a disaffection, and many other matters of general concern in this important conjuncture of our affairs—calls for a union of councils and measures.

To effect which, with the greatest expedition, we have thought it necessary to send one of our board to meet such gentlemen as may be appointed from the states of Rhode Island, Massachusetts and New Hampshire; or such of them as shall concur in the measure, at Boston, as early next week as possible, to confer on these and other important subjects peculiarly necessary at this day; to agree upon and adopt such similar measures as may be most conducive to the general interest.

We have forwarded this intimation by an express to the council of war, at Providence; and if agreeable to them, it is requested they would unite in their request with ours, to the council of war, at Boston, by them immediately to be communicated to the president and council in New Hampshire, for the purpose that such convention may be held at Boston with all possible expedition. The reasons for this proposal are so obvious, the matters so pressing, that we apprehend no apology need be made for this application.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir,

Your obedient, humble servant,

JON' TH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

tach a man from the said class ; and the secretary is directed to transmit a copy of this resolution immediately to the town clerk of the town of Providence.

It is voted and resolved, that Rowse J. Helme, Thomas Rumreill, William Channing, Metcalf Bowler and William Taggart, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to devise ways and means for paying the arrearages due to the regiments commanded by Colonels Christopher Greene, Henry Sherburne and Israel Angell, on account of the depreciation of their wages ; and that they make report to this Assembly at the present session.

Whereas, since the arrival of the army of His Most Christian Majesty in this state; the officers thereof residing in the town of Newport have been supplied with bread by the bakers of the said town, which hath greatly increased the consumption of flour therein, and unless an immediate supply can be obtained, the inhabitants of the said town will be distressed, and prevented from affording the necessary supplies for the said officers in future,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to write to His Excellency Governor Trumbull, and request him to permit two hundred barrels of flour to be purchased in the state of Connecticut, and brought from thence into the said town of Newport, for the use, aforesaid ; and that Mr. George Champlin, merchant, be, and he is hereby, appointed in behalf of the said town, to procure the same ; and that he conduct himself in the purchase thereof, agreeably to the permission which may be obtained.

It is voted and resolved, that the grass fit for mowing on the Point Farm (so called), lying in South Kingstown, belonging to this state, be immediately cut and made into hay ; that the Honorable Major General Heath be requested to detach forty men from Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment for that purpose ; and that Mr. Samuel Congdon and Mr. John Hawkins be, and they are hereby, appointed to superintend and assist in the said business.

It is further voted and resolved, that Charles Keen, Esq., be requested to furnish two dozen of scythes and thirty rakes; that George Irish, Esq., be requested to purchase two grind-stones, twelve pitch-forks, the necessary scythe-tackling and a cart-rope, for the purpose, aforesaid; and that they forward the same to the said Samuel Congdon and John Hawkins, who shall be paid a reasonable consideration for their services.

Whereas, William Taggart and William Richmond, Esqs., and Mr. William Ladd, presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly,  
relative to Samuel Dyer.*

We, the subscribers, in consequence of our appointment, have examined the jurors on the trial of Samuel Dyer, Esq., at the superior court, held at Tiverton, in July inst., and do find, that Gideon Wilcox, the foreman of the jury, had furnished himself with provisions previous to the trial; by which means, together with his threats of holding out longer than the rest, he obtained a verdict contrary to the opinion of the greatest part of the said jury; therefore we beg leave to report to this Honorable General Assembly, accordingly.

WILLIAM TAGGART,  
WILLIAM RICHMOND,  
WILLIAM LADD,  
Committee.

Tiverton, July 15, 1780.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be accepted; and that the said Samuel Dyer be cited to attend this Assembly, at four of the clock, P. M., this day, to show cause (if any he hath) why the trial at Tiverton, as aforesaid, should not be deemed a mis-trial, the verdict then and there given set aside, and a new trial ordered.

It is voted and resolved, that £15,000, lawful money, be advanced to Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general, out of the general treasury, to purchase knapsacks, oars, wood, &c., for the troops, and to defray the expense of their marching.

Whereas, Daniel Box, Esq., preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that in the year 1775 he engaged in the service of this state as brigade major; that he

hath continued in the public service ever since; that in consequence of a new arrangement of officers, which took place in May, 1779, he was not allowed by the committee appointed for that purpose, the depreciation of his wages, which was allowed to the other officers in the Continental service; and that he hath hitherto received no further allowance for his services than Continental wages and rations; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to make him an adequate allowance for his services; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted; that the said Daniel Box receive the said allowances on account of depreciation as the other officers of his rank; and that the committee for adjusting the accounts of the troops of this state, on the depreciation of their wages, &c., settle the balance due to the said Daniel Box, and make report as soon as may be.

Whereas, it appears to this Assembly, that the jurors who tried the information filed against Samuel Dyer, at the superior court lately held at Tiverton, in the county of Newport, were guilty of very flagrant misconduct in the said trial,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the trial aforesaid, be, and hereby is, adjudged a mis-trial; that the verdict of the said jury be set aside; and that a new trial be had on the said information, at the next superior court of judicature court of assize and general jail delivery, to be holden at Newport, within and for the said county of Newport.

An Act establishing a court of admiralty in this state.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

Whereas, it appears to this Assembly, that Adam Ferguson, of Newport, tobacconist, is an enemy to the United States,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Adam Ferguson be immediately confined in the jail, in the county

of Newport; that he be sent to New York, or to some other place in the possession of the British troops, in the first flag of truce that shall go from this state, under the direction of the Honorable Major General Heath, or of the commanding officer in this state for the time being; that if the said Adam Ferguson shall ever return into this state, he shall be subjected to the penalties of the act passed at the last session, to prevent certain persons therein named, from being admitted within this state; that he be allowed to take his family, or any part thereof, with him; and his household furniture, or otherwise dispose of it, as he shall think fit; that the sheriff of the county of Newport take into his possession all the remainder of the personal estate of the said Adam Ferguson; and that he make report to this Assembly at the next session.

Provided nevertheless, that the said Adam Ferguson may confine himself to his own house, until he shall be sent away, as aforesaid, upon his giving bond, with sufficient surety, to be of good behaviour in the mean time.

Whereas, the Honorable Major General Heath, who was requested to detach forty men from Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment, to cut the grass and make it into hay, on the Point Farm (so called), in South Kingstown, hath informed this Assembly that he hath since received an order from His Excellency General Washington, to march the said regiment immediately; and that it is therefore out of his power to comply with the said request; and whereas, it is necessary that the said hay should be made,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that there be procured in the towns hereafter mentioned, the number of men set against each town for the purpose, aforesaid, to wit:

South Kingstown,	-	-	4	Hopkinton,	-	-	-	2
North Kingstown,	-	-	2	Exeter,	-	-	-	2
Charlestown,	-	-	4	Middletown,	-	-	-	2
Westerly,	-	-	2	Newport,	-	-	-	3
Richmond,	-	-	3					

It is further voted and resolved, that the deputies from the said towns be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed, to furnish the men required of their several towns, and send them to the said farm immediately; that they agree with the said men for their wages, and supply them with the necessary provisions and liquor; and that they make report of the expense thereof, to this Assembly, as soon as may be, which shall be paid out of the general treasury.

Whereas, John I. Clarke, William Channing, Rowse J. Helme, Metcalf Bowler and Benjamin Bourne, reported unto this Assembly the following draught of an address to the Honorable Lieutenant-General le Compte DeRochambeau, to wit:

*Address of the General Assembly of Rhode Island to Gen. Rochambeau.*

The representatives of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, in General Assembly convened, with the most pleasing satisfaction, take the earliest opportunity of congratulating Compte DeRochambeau, Lieutenant-General of the army of His Most Christian Majesty, upon his safe arrival within the United States. Upon this occasion, we cannot be too expressive of the grateful sense we entertain of the generous and magnanimous aid afforded to the United States, by their illustrious friend and ally. Sufficient had been the proofs of his zeal and friendship; the present instance must constrain even envious, disappointed Britons to venerate the wisdom of his counsels, and the sincerity of his noble mind. We look forward, with a most pleasing expectation, to the end of a campaign, in which the allied force of France and these United States, under the smiles of Divine Providence, may be productive of peace and happiness to the contending powers, and mankind in general. We assure you, sir, our expectations are enlarged, when we consider the wisdom of H s Most Christian Majesty in your appointment, as the commander of his army, destined to our assistance. Be assured, sir, of every exertion in the power of this state to afford the necessary refreshments to the army under your command, and to render the service to all ranks as agreeable and happy, as it is honorable \*

We are, in behalf of the General Assembly,

The General's most obedient, and most devoted, humble servants,

WILLIAM GREENE,

WILLIAM BRADFORD.

To Lieutenant-General Compte DeRochambeau.

\* *Reply of Gen. Rochambeau to the Address of the General Assembly of Rhode Island.*

Gentlemen:—The King, my master, hath sent me to the assistance of his good and faithful allies, the United States of America. At present, I only bring over the vanguard of a much greater force destined for their aid; and the King has ordered me to assure them, that his whole power shall be exerted for their support.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said draught of an address, be, and the same is hereby, approved; that the secretary cause a fair copy thereof to be made; that His Excellency the Governor, and the speaker of the lower house, be requested to sign the same, in behalf of this Assembly; and that the Honorable William Bradford, Esq., and John I. Clarke, Esq., Mr. Joseph Brown, William Channing, Robert Elliot, Metcalf Bowler and William Richmond, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to present the same to le Compte DeRochambeau.

Whereas, John I. Clarke, William Channing, Rowse J. Helme, Metcalf Bowler and Benjamin Bourne, Esqs., reported unto this Assembly the following draught of an address to the Honorable le Chevalier DeTernay, admiral and com-

The French troops are under the strictest discipline; and, acting under the orders of General Washington, will live with the Americans as their brethren; and nothing will afford me greater happiness than contributing to their success.

I am highly sensible of the marks of respect shown me by the General Assembly, and beg leave to assure them, that as brethren, not only my life, but the lives of the troops under my command, are entirely devoted to their service. (Signed.) THE COUNT DEROCHAMBEAU.

The following is a perfect list of the French fleet under the Chevalier DeTernay, now at Rhode Island:

THE FRENCH FLEET AT BHOORE ISLAND

Ships' names.	Guns.	Men.	Commanders.
Le Duc DeBourgogne	84	1,200	Admiral DeTernay
Le Neptune	74	700	Destouches.
Le Conquerant	74	700	
L'Eveille	64	600	DeTribland.
Le Province	64	600	C. B. DeMesigny.
Ardent (olim British)	64	600	
Le Jason	64	600	
La Fantasque, serving as an hospital ship			

## FRIGATES.

La Surveillante	40	300	DeCaillet.
L'Andromaque	36	250	DeRonevel.
La Sibella	33	250	Bar. DeClugney.
La Hermione	36	250	De la Touche.
Pelican, American vessel	29	160	

ARMED SHIPS.

Le Bruen . . . . .	Des Arros.
La Complase . . . . .	DeNoulds.
The land forces consist of—	
Regiment de Bourbonnois,	Regiment de Soissonois,
" " Royal Deux Ponts,	Legion de Lausun,
" " Saintouge,	First battalion of artillery.
The frigates are to go out on a cruise.	

mander of the fleet of His Most Christian Majesty, within this state :

*Address of the General Assembly of Rhode Island, to Chevalier DeTernay.*

The representatives of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, in General Assembly convened, with the most pleasing satisfaction, take this, the earliest opportunity, of testifying the sentiments that are impressed upon them, by the great attention which His Most Christian Majesty has invariably manifested to the United States. The formidable armaments heretofore sent to our aid, have essentially promoted our happiness and independence; but at a time when Europe is involved in the calamities of war, by the ambitious views of the British court, we cannot express the gratitude we feel upon your arrival, with the fleet under your command, destined by our illustrious ally to the assistance of the United States. We entreat you, on this occasion, to accept the warmest congratulations of the General Assembly of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations; and be assured, sir, of every exertion in their power to afford the necessary refreshments to the fleet, and to render the service as agreeable and happy, as it is honorable.

We are, in behalf of the General Assembly,

The Admiral's most obedient and most humble servants,

WILLIAM GREENE,  
WILLIAM BRADFORD.

To Le Chevalier DeTernay.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, approved; that the secretary cause a fair copy thereof to be made; that His Excellency the Governor, and the speaker of the lower house, be requested to sign the same, in behalf of this Assembly; and that the Honorable William Bradford, Esq., John I. Clarke, Esq., Mr. Joseph Brown, William Channing, Robert Elliott, Metcalf Bowler and William Richmond, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed to present the same to le Chevalier DeTernay.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee for settling the depreciation of the wages of the officers and soldiers belonging to this state, in the Continental army, be, and they are hereby, directed to adjust the balances due to the officers and soldiers in Colonel Henry Sherburne's regiment, belonging to this state; and that they make report as soon as may be.

Whereas, Metcalf Bowler, Thomas Rumreill and Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esqs., reported unto this Assembly, a draught of a letter\* to the president of the council of the commonwealth of Massachusetts; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, approved; that the secretary cause a fair copy thereof, to be made; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to sign and transmit the same, to the said president, as soon as may be.

A draught of a letter† to His Excellency Governor Trum-

\* *The Governor of Rhode Island to the President of the Council of Massachusetts.*

Newport, July 20, 1780.

Sir:—A letter of the 14th instant, from Governor Trumbull, proposing a committee from each of the New England states, to convene at Boston, to confer on very important measures therein proposed, I laid before the General Assembly of this state, which unanimously concurred with the proposal; and have requested me to write you, recommending the concurrence of your state with the same; and if agreeable, to request you to write to the president and council of New Hampshire, on this necessary measure.

It is proposed to convene at Boston, on Wednesday, the 26th day of July instant.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM GREENE.

To the Honorable President of the Council of Massachusetts Bay.

† *The Governor of Rhode Island to Governor Trumbull, of Connecticut.*

Newport, July 19, 1780.

Sir:—I was, on the 17th instant, favored with yours, of the 14th, and have laid the same before the General Assembly at the present session.

They are fully impressed with the necessity and propriety of the measure proposed, and have requested me to inform you that they will appoint a committee to attend at Boston, for the purposes mentioned in your letter, on Wednesday, the 26th day of July instant. I shall immediately communicate this resolution to the president of the council of Massachusetts Bay.

The General Assembly being sincerely desirous of accommodating the officers of the army and navy of His Most Christian Majesty, now at this place, and of furnishing them with the necessary supplies, have passed a resolution, a copy whereof, at their request, I now enclose you. I must request your attention to this resolution, and that you would be pleased to grant permission for the purpose therein mentioned, as it will be otherwise impracticable to procure the necessary supply of flour.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir,

Your obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM GREENE.

To His Excellency Governor Trumbull.

*Governor Trumbull of Connecticut, to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Lebanon, 21st July, 1780.

Sir:—Mr. Champlin delivered yours of the 19th, this forenoon. Colonel Dyer went from home the 18th, in expectation to meet a commissioner from your state, to proceed immediately with him to Boston, hoping to enter on business by the close of this week, as the subjects to be

bull, presented unto this Assembly, by Metcalf Bowler, Thomas Rumreill and Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esqs., a committee appointed for the purpose, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, approved: that the secretary cause a fair copy thereof to be made; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to sign and transmit the same to His Excellency Governor Trumbull.

It is voted and resolved, that Charles Holden, Esq., commissary of purchases in this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to furnish and supply Solomon Southwick, Esq., deputy commissary general of issues, with the necessary provisions and liquors for the Honorable Major General Heath, and his family, while in this state.

Whereas, it has been represented to this Assembly, that a number of British officers, who were captured by the fleet of His Most Christian Majesty, are now prisoners of war in the town of Newport; and whereas, their being at large in the said town, in the present situation of affairs, may be attended with inconvenience to the public,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that it be recommended to Major General Heath to request Lieutenant-General Rochambeau to cause the said officers to be sent to Cumberland, in the county of Providence, there to remain until exchanged, or until the further order of the said General Rochambeau.

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considered, require speedy determination; hope that your committee will not exceed the time you have set.

The other affair mentioned, and contained in the resolution of your Assembly, it is not in my power to do any thing upon. The requisition of the committee of co-operation is for fifteen hundred barrels of flour per month, from this state; a quantity, I fear, not possible for us to provide.

Our Assembly, willing to exert ourselves to the extent of our abilities, ordered an illustration to be made of all the salted pork, flour and grain of every sort; so that all to be spared might be known and purchased by the commissaries in the several districts; they only to have liberty to purchase, as all would be wanted for the use of the army. I have not encouraged Mr. Champlin to go further; and tell him that the French officers quartered in families, ought to furnish them out of the flour sent them for the use of His Most Christian Majesty's forces. I cannot see at present how flour can be had in this state, for the purpose mentioned in the resolve of your Assembly.

I have received no official intelligence concerning the French armament that is arrived; nor whether any more is expected

I am, with great truth and regard, sir,

Your obedient, humble servant,  
JON TH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

Whereas, this state is now called upon immediately to furnish its quota of the supplies required by the committee of Congress, for the use of the army of the United States of America, during the present campaign; and whereas, it is the duty of each and every part of the state to contribute in furnishing the same, according to their respective abilities; and whereas, the town of New Shoreham, from its exposed situation, hath been hitherto excused from furnishing its quota of supplies of men and provisions, for carrying on the present war; and it being now impracticable to make any regular assessment upon the said island,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said town of New Shoreham be, and it is hereby, called upon to furnish and deliver to the committee hereafter appointed, the number of horses and cattle, and the quantity of grain, fish and cheese, which shall be required of them by the said committee, to be applied in part of the quota of supplies required, as aforesaid.

It is further voted and resolved, that William Richmond and John Topham, Esqs., and Mr. Mathew Manchester be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to proceed forthwith to the said town of New Shoreham, and on their arrival, they are hereby fully empowered and directed to demand from the inhabitants thereof, such a number of horses and cattle, and such quantities of grain, fish and cheese, as in their opinion can be furnished by the said inhabitants, for the use aforesaid; and that upon receipt thereof, the said committee appraise the same, and deliver certificates of such appraisements to the proprietors thereof, and make return of the same, that such an equitable adjustment thereof may be made as this Assembly shall hereafter order.

It is further voted and resolved, that if the said inhabitants of the said island shall neglect or refuse to deliver the said horses, cattle, grain, fish and cheese, which shall be demanded

by the said committee, in pursuance of this resolution, within twelve hours after such demand shall be made, as aforesaid, the said committee are thereupon directed to take from the said inhabitants in whose possession soever they may be found, the number of horses and cattle, and the quantities of grain, fish and cheese, which shall be demanded, as aforesaid; and that they appraise the same, and make return thereof, to this Assembly.

It is further voted and resolved, that if it should hereafter appear, that the horses, cattle, grain, fish and cheese, which shall be received or taken, as aforesaid, from the inhabitants of the said island, shall exceed the proportion which ought to be furnished by the said inhabitants for the purpose, aforesaid, the said town of New Shoreham shall be credited for the surplus in the first tax which shall be assessed upon the said town, after the same shall be ascertained.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said committee be, and they hereby, are empowered and directed to procure and take with them to the said island, a sufficient number of vessels for transporting to Newport the horses, cattle, grain, &c., which shall be received or taken, as aforesaid, and if necessary, to impress the same; and they are also empowered to agree with the owners of the said vessels for the use, thereof, and to employ a sufficient number of persons to navigate the same.

And whereas, it is necessary that the said committee should be protected from any British vessel of war, and should receive every necessary assistance in the execution of this business,—

It is therefore further voted and resolved, that Major General Heath be requested to apply to the commanders-in-chief of His Most Christian Majesty, now within this state, for the aid of men and ships requisite to carry this resolution into execution.

Whereas, the officers of His Most Christian Majesty's hos-

pital have requested this Assembly to appropriate a suitable piece of land on the state's farm, at Popasquash, for the burial of such as may die at the said hospital,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the principal director of the said hospital be, and he is hereby, permitted to choose and appropriate for the purpose, aforesaid, such a part of the said farm as may be convenient; and that the deputy quartermaster general be, and he is hereby, directed to enclose the same within a pale-fence.

It is further voted and resolved, that whenever the said farm shall be sold, this state will make reservation of the said burial ground.

Whereas, it is represented to this Assembly, that the committee of the town of South Kingstown, for classing and detaching the inhabitants of the said town, have detached one Richard Phillips (son of William), an inhabitant of, and resident in, the town of North Kingstown,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Richard Phillips be, and he is hereby, released from the said detachment; and that the said committee be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed forthwith to furnish an able-bodied and effective man, to serve in Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment, in the place and stead of the said Richard Phillips; and that they take and distrain from the estates of the three delinquents, who were classed with the said Richard Phillips, so much as may be sufficient to pay three-fourths of the expense of hiring and furnishing a man, as aforesaid; and the remainder of such expense shall be paid by the said town of South Kingstown.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the said committee, in case of refusal to perform the business enjoined on them by this resolve, be subject and liable to the same penalties as they would have been, in case of refusing and neglecting to execute the duties enjoined upon them by the act of this Assembly, passed at the last session, for classing and detaching the inhabitants of their said town, to

complete their quota of men ordered to be raised, to serve six months in the Continental army.

An Act for proportioning, upon the several towns within this state, the monthly supplies to be raised for the support of the army.

Whereas, it is expedient, for the preservation of the liberties of this and the United States, that the supplies for the army, as recommended by the Honorable Continental Congress, should be duly had and received by the commissary of purchases; and whereas, the said supplies can be procured in the most easy and expeditious manner, by proportioning the same unto the respective towns within this state,—

Be it therefore enacted by the General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the following towns, hereinafter mentioned, shall monthly supply the commissary general of purchases of this state with the quantity of seventy-one thousand six hundred and seventy-five pounds weight of good merchantable beef, and two thousand two hundred and eighty-five bushels of good merchantable Indian corn, rye, oats, or barley, for and during the months of July, August, September and October, in the following proportions, to wit:

*Proportion of Supplies to be furnished by the several Towns in the State, for the Continental Army.*

Portsmouth .....	3,555 lbs. of beef.
Middletown .....	2,200 " "
Jamestown .....	2,200 " "
Tiverton .....	2,555 " " and 100 bushels of grain.
Little Compton .....	3,555 " " " 100 " "
Smithfield.....	5,000 " " " 150 " "
Scituate.....	4,600 " " " 100 " "
Glocester.....	4,600 " " " 150 " "
Cumberland .....	2,600 " " " 90 " "
Cranston .....	2,450 " " " 110 " "
Johnston .....	1,560 " " " 20 " "
North Providence .....	1,000 " " " 15 " "
Westerly.....	2,400 " " " 100 " "
North Kingstown .....	3,600 " " " 100 " "
South Kingstown .....	6,800 " " " 180 " "
Charlestown .....	2,500 " " " 100 " "
Richmond .....	2,500 " " " 125 " "
Exeter .....	2,800 " " " 100 " "
Hopkinton.....	2,300 " " " 75 " "
Bristol .....	1,500 " " " 100 " "
Warren .....	500 " " " 50 " "
Barrington .....	800 " " " 60 " "
Warwick .....	3,000 " " " 140 " "
East Greenwich .....	800 " " " 70 " "
West Greenwich .....	2,800 " " " 125 " "
Coventry.....	2,500 " " " 125 " "

Which aforesaid articles of beef and grain shall be procured and had by the towns, ready to be delivered unto the said commissary, at or before the end and expiration of

each month, as aforesaid ; and for which articles, aforesaid, the said commissary shall immediately pay unto the persons procuring the same, in the money issued by this state, and funded upon real estate, the common going market-prices of such articles as they are sold for in gold and silver.

Provided nevertheless, that the towns of South Kingstown, Tiverton and Little Compton, be not called upon to procure and provide the grain, aforesaid, until the month of August.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all the beef and grain which hath been purchased by the commissary, aforesaid, within any town of this state, shall be allowed and reckoned unto such town, and shall be held and considered as so much furnished by said town ; and the commissary, aforesaid, is hereby directed to make a return of the quantity of beef and grain which he has purchased, as aforesaid, unto the respective town clerks of each town, of the quantity he has respectively obtained of them, that the same may be known, accounted and reckoned unto them, in part of their supplies, as aforesaid.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the town clerks of the respective towns within this state, be, and they are hereby, ordered, empowered and directed to issue their warrants as soon as may be, to convene a town meeting, to make choice of, and appoint, suitable persons for the procuring of such articles, in such ways and by such means as the said respective towns shall adjudge to be the most eligible.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any or either of the towns, aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to provide the articles, aforesaid, in manner as is before directed, it shall, and may, be lawful for the commissary, aforesaid, and he is hereby directed and required, to go into such town, and seize and take from the inhabitants thereof, to the amount of their proportion of beef and grain, as aforesaid, and to pay unto the persons from whom he shall take the articles, aforesaid, the common going price, as aforesaid ; and if the person or persons, from whom the same shall be taken, shall refuse to accept and receive the money, aforesaid, the commissary shall pay into the town treasury of such town, from which such articles shall be taken, to the amount, thereof; and the town treasurer of such town is hereby required to receive the same, and give his receipt therefor, and take a certificate of the commissary from whom such articles were taken, with the quantity and price, thereof; and thereupon the said commissary shall be fully discharged ; and the moneys shall remain in the treasury, aforesaid, to be disposed of in such manner as the town shall direct.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all the aforesaid towns shall be excused from procuring any part of the rum or salt, which is required by Congress, for the supplies, aforesaid ; the towns of Newport and Providence, not being assessed herein, are hereafter to procure the said rum and salt, if required by this Assembly.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that those sequestered estates which have furnished grain or other articles since the requisition, be considered as part of the quota of the said supplies, in the towns where such estates lie ; and that in case any West India goods or salt shall arrive at any of the sea-ports in this state, they furnish the said articles in proportion to the quantities which have arrived, or may arrive, at such ports.

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the secretary forthwith cause this act to be printed, and sent to the town clerks of each respective town.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that there is great want of feed for the cattle belonging to, and employed by, the army and fleet of His Most Christian Majesty wthin this state,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Mr. Simeon Martin, deputy commissary of forage, be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed, to apply to the proprietors of a lot of land, containing about sixty acres, lying at the north end of the town of Newport, and belonging to Colonel John Malbone, and others, and agree with them for such consideration, for the use of the said land, for the purpose, aforesaid, as shall be adjudged to be reasonable by three persons, to be mutually chosen by the major part of the said proprietors and the said Simeon Martin; and that in case the said proprietors shall refuse or neglect to agree on men to appraise the said pasturage, or shall refuse to agree to their appraisement, then the said Simeon Martin be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to take possession of the said pasture land, and convert it to the use, aforesaid, and cause the same to be appraised by any such three judicious persons as he may appoint for that purpose.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the said Simeon Martin take effectual care that the said pasture be guarded in such a manner as to prevent any injury to the adjoining lands.

It is voted and resolved, that Charles Holden, Esq., commissary of purchases, in this state, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of £3,000, lawful money, out of the general treasury, to enable him to purchase the necessary supplies for General Heath, and his family; and that he account for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that Colonel Ephraim Bowen, Jr., deputy quartermaster general, be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to furnish Doctor James Craick, who was ordered into this state, by His Excellency Gen. Washington, to prepare hospitals for the French army and fleet, out of the money that hath been advanced to him by this Assembly, with a sufficient sum to defray his expenses, since he hath been in this state, and on his return to headquarters.

Whereas, William Richmond, Daniel Mowry, Jr., Rowse J. Helme and Thomas Holden, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly, the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly,  
to take an estimate of the Polls and Ratable Property  
within the State.*

TOWNS.	Ratable polls.		Slaves from 10 to 50.	Money and trading stock.	Ounces of plate.	Horses from 6 mos.	Oxen.	Horned cattle.	Sheep and goats.	Amount of the ratable value of each town.	
	£	s.								£	s.
Tiverton .....	304	8	2,243	0	820	200	240	1,171	3,936	111,895	3
Little Compton .....	250	6	774	0	566	245	201	1,205	2,046	87,084	8
Providence .....	509	40	42,299	17	4,075	171	68	281	219	212,236	5
Smithfield .....	425	3	2,143	0	1,157	346	413	2,370	3,449	194,864	1
Scituate .....	605	1	2,964	19	286	510	464	2,649	4,738	205,314	18
Glocester .....	555	5	1,963	9	286	363	420	2,678	3,558	181,389	7
Cumberland .....	292	2	1,201	11	153	203	229	1,336	2,007	92,626	11
Cranston .....	297	12	2,423	11	693	227	235	1,013	2,119	123,575	11
Johnston .....	183	1	1,848	0	580	130	168	665	1,106	66,098	17
North Providence ..	127	3	1,852	17	410	68	106	495	669	53,538	1
Westerly .....	317	13	1,031	10	879	282	210	1,147	2,598	97,843	5
North Kingstown ..	394	78	4,278	7	1,363	312	255	1,335	3,476	146,787	18
South Kingstown ..	398	156	3,634	12	2,617	610	530	3,353	6,818	282,935	4
Charlestown .....	232	16	802	16	324	222	225	965	2,264	79,266	15
Richmond .....	216	4	438	9	170	213	203	1,237	2,362	72,778	16
Exeter .....	360	45	672	19	486	337	196	1,521	3,267	105,249	11
Hopkinton .....	315	15	1,176	9	293	252	224	1,072	2,566	92,448	9
Bristol .....	171	16	4,111	0	755	103	117	535	1,877	65,779	0
Warren .....	168	14	4,512	3	147	57	40	345	340	37,801	12
Barrington .....	92	6	850	11	148	56	48	305	649	29,915	13
Warwick .....	324	41	12,838	2	1,626	305	287	1,514	3,013	175,001	19
East Greenwich....	273	18	4,812	6	1,262	171	152	701	1,411	78,264	13
West Greenwich ..	317	12	498	5	235	224	227	1,098	2,642	85,384	10
Coventry .....	343	3	7,724	8	253	235	309	1,322	2,864	110,065	3
	7,467	518	107,097	11	19,584	5,903	5,567	31,313	59,944	2,778,145	10

We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee to take an estimate of the ratable property within this state, agreeably to an act of the General Assembly, passed in October, A. D. 1778, have, in conformity thereto, proceeded into the towns abovenamed, and with great care, and as much precision as possible, have endeavored to obtain an exact account of the real value of this state; for which purpose, we have made out distinct and separate rolls for each respective town, which are herewith presented; and the above is a summary of the real value of each town, which we hope will meet with the approbation of Your Honors.

All which, is submitted by—

WILLIAM RICHMOND,  
DANIEL MOWRY<sup>J</sup>. JR.,

ROWSE J. HELME,  
THOMAS HOLDEN,  
Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted.

And be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that the said valuation of the ratable property, as expressed and specified against each respective town, is the value of each town; that the same shall be considered as its value; and that in all taxes and assessments to be made upon the said towns, the said valuation shall be the rule and guide for proportioning the same.

Whereas, Adam Ferguson, who is confined to his own house, by a resolution of this Assembly, hath so conducted himself since his confinement as aforesaid, that the public safety requires he should be more closely confined—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Newport be, and he is hereby, directed forthwith to commit the said Adam Ferguson to close jail, in the said county, there to remain until he shall be sent to New York, as before directed by this Assembly; and that the bond given by the said Adam Ferguson, to the general treasurer of this state, for his good behaviour, be delivered up.

Whereas, the committee appointed to ascertain the balances due to the officers and soldiers of this state's Continental battalions, for depreciation, have made a report thereof; and this Assembly having accepted the said report, did thereupon resolve, that at this session, ways and means should be devised for paying such part thereof immediately, as the abilities of this state will admit of, and the residue as soon as the same could be supplied,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sum of £75,000, lawful money, due and payable the 1st day August next, for the wrecks heretofore disposed of by the committee appointed for that purpose, be paid to the officers and soldiers of the said battalions, in proportion to their wages, in part of the balances ascertained and due as aforesaid.

And it is further voted and resolved, that so much of the real estates of the absentees confiscated to the use of this state, be set off by the committee herein after appointed, as shall be sufficient to discharge the residue of the said balances; and that the same be conveyed in fee simple, for the use of the said officers and soldiers, to such persons, and in such manner as this Assembly shall hereafter order.

It is further voted and resolved, that William Channing, Caleb Harris, Rowse J. Helme, William Bradford and Adam Comstock, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to set off so much of the said estates, as shall be equal in value to the balances ascertained as aforesaid, after deducting from the same the sums already advanced, and the sum now ordered to be paid in part thereof; and the said committee are hereby empowered and directed, to set off the land, in satisfaction of the balances due to the commissioned officers, separate from the land which they shall set off in payment of the balances due to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the said battalions; and the said committee are further empowered to ascertain the balances due as aforesaid, and to appraise the land which they shall set off as aforesaid; and also to draught a bill for conveyance of the same, agreeably to this resolution; and that they make report as soon as may be.

Provided nevertheless, and it is further voted and resolved, that the said committee do not proceed in setting off the said land, until the said officers and soldiers shall have first signified to them their approbation of, and acquiescence in the measures herein proposed; and that they, the said officers and soldiers, will accept the land which shall be assigned them by the said committee, in satisfaction of the balances due to them, agreeably to this resolution.

Whereas, from the depreciation of the currency of the United States, the owners of the ferries in this state will suffer great injury in conforming to the prices heretofore established by law, at their respective ferries; and whereas, a deviation from the said prices, unless others be fixed, will

will subject persons passing the said ferries to great impositions,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Messrs. William Richmond, Charles Keen, John Stafford, Cromel Child and Joseph Stanton, Jr., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draught a bill for the regulation of the prices of ferriage, at the several ferries throughout this state; and that they make report as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that Nathan Miller, William Taggart and George Irish, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to furnish a suitable and convenient ferry boat for the conveyance of men, horses and carriages, from the ~~ferry~~ on the west side of Jamestown to the Narragansett shore; that they deliver the said boat to Mrs. Mary Franklin, the proprietor of the said ferry, and settle with her the terms upon which she shall receive it; and that they report to this Assembly, at the next session, the expense of procuring the said boat, that the same may be paid out of the general treasury.

Whereas, His Excellency Governor Trumbull hath informed this Assembly, that a commissioner is appointed by the state of Connecticut, to meet commissioners from the other states in New England, in a convention, to be holden at Boston, for the purpose of agreeing upon the mode of furnishing the necessary supplies from the said states, for the present campaign, and upon such other measures as may tend to promote the success of the allied armies; and requested this state to appoint a commissioner for the aforesaid purposes; and this Assembly being convinced that the measures proposed will be essentially beneficial to the United States,—

Do vote and resolve, and it is voted and resolved, that the Honorable William Bradford, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed as commissioner on the part of this state, to meet the commissioners from the other states in New England, in the said convention; that he be, and hereby is, empowered to agree to such measures as the said convention, or

the major part thereof, shall judge necessary to be adopted by the said states in New England, in the present important crisis of public affairs ; and that he make report of the resolutions of the said convention to this Assembly, for ratification.

It is voted and resolved, that £229 16s., in bills of the new emission, funded upon real estate, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, to William Channing and James M. Varnum, Esqs., for their services, in filing informations against the several confiscated estates, and attending the courts and pleading to the same.

Whereas, Mrs. —— Ferguson, the wife of Adam Ferguson, who is ordered to be sent to New York, and whose estate is taken into possession for the use of the state, hath represented to this Assembly, that a great part of her husband's property consists of her marriage portion, and prayed that his personal estate may be deposited in the hands of Mr. George Burkmaster, for the support of herself and of her children ; and this Assembly compassionating her circumstances,—

Do vote and resolve, and it is voted and resolved, that the whole personal estate of the said Adam Ferguson be delivered by the sheriff of the county of Newport, to the said George Burkmaster, for the use aforesaid ; any thing in the act empowering the said Adam Ferguson to dispose of his household furniture to the contrary hereof, notwithstanding ; and that the said George Burkmaster deal out the same to the said —— Ferguson for the said use, as her circumstances shall from time to time require.

Whereas, Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general, hath represented unto this Assembly, that he hath not a sufficient sum of money in his hands to defray the expenses of transporting the stores to Fishkill and Connecticut river, and to defray the expenses of Doctor James Craick, as directed by this Assembly,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Ephraim Bowen, Jr., be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the

sum of £8,100, Continental money, out of the general treasury, for the purposes aforesaid.

It is voted and resolved, that John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of £12,000, in Continental money, out of the general treasury, to enable him to procure hunting-shirts and overalls, for the new levies lately raised by this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the draught of a letter\* to Ezekiel Cornell, Esq., a delegate from this state in Congress, laid before this Assembly, be, and hereby is, approved; that the secretary make a fair copy thereof; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to sign and transmit the same.

Whereas, the magnanimity of His Most Christian Majesty, our illustrious ally, in sending a powerful army and fleet to the assistance of the United States; the great propriety with which the officers of the said army and fleet have conducted themselves since their arrival in this state; and the zeal they manifest for the interest of the United States, demand every grateful return in the power of this General Assembly,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the Honorable Wm. Bradford, Esq., Christopher Ellery, Esq., Metcalf Bowler, Wm. Channing, Esq., John Topham, Esq., Caleb Gardner, Esq., Mr. George Champlin, George Irish, Esq., Jo-

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\* *The Governor of Rhode Island to Ezekiel Cornell, Delegate in the Continental Congress, from Rhode Island.*

In General Assembly, Newport, 22d July, 1780.

Sir:—I am requested by the General Assembly to inform you that the demands for money upon this State, in the various staff departments, particularly the quartermaster's, are immensely greater than our abilities. Every exertion has been made with the greatest cheerfulness, and nothing will prevent a continuance, but absolute impossibility. The necessity for large expenditures, are daily more urgent, from the variety of circumstances, attendant upon the fleet and the army of His Most Christian Majesty. This state being the place of their present residence, is, in some measure, considered as possessing the treasury of America.

In a short time, if the demand for money should be continued, we shall be totally unable to answer them. A failure in this respect, may be attended with fatal consequences. It is necessary, therefore, that Congress be fully informed of these circumstances. You will immediately communicate them, and urge the earliest attention to our situation.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM GREENE.

To Ezekiel Cornell, Esq.

seph Stanton, Jr., Esq., Rowse J. Helme, Esq., Adam Comstock, Esq., Charles Keen, Esq., Robert Elliott, Esq., Nathan Miller, Esq. and Mr. Daniel Mason, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to prepare a dinner and entertainment at the expense of this state, on the 10th day of August next; that the said committee, or the major part of them, wait upon the Honorable the Count de Rochambeau, commander of the army of His Most Christian Majesty, in this state; and the Honorable the Chevalier de Terny, admiral and commander of the fleet of His Most Christian Majesty, in this state, with the compliments of this General Assembly, and request the honor of their company, and of the officers under their command, at dinner; that the said committee give the invitation of this Assembly to the Honorable Major General Heath, and his family, and to such other officers and gentlemen as they shall think fit; and that the said Charles Keen be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw such a sum of money out of the general treasury, as in the opinion of the said committee, will be sufficient to provide the necessary articles for the entertainment.

It is voted and resolved, that Charles Holden, Esq., commissary of purchases, be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver the hides and tallow of the cattle which may be killed in this state, to John Reynolds, Esq., agent clothier, in order to procure shoes for the troops raised by this state.

It is voted and resolved, that there be raised within this state, and embodied without delay, six hundred and thirty able-bodied and effective men, to serve under the command of His Excellency General Washington, for the term of three months; that they be proportioned to the several towns, in a mean proportion to the value and the number of polls in the several towns, by the last estimate; that each man so raised, receive a bounty of £7 10s., lawful money, in the bills of the new emission, funded on real estate; that they be classed and detached in the same manner as was directed by the additional act for filling up the Continental battalions, passed at the present session; and

that William Taggart, Welcome Arnold, Rowse J. Helme, Nathan Miller and Thomas Holden, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draught a bill accordingly; and that they apportion the men to the towns which have not been estimated discretionally.

Whereas, notwithstanding the provision made in an act passed by this Assembly, at the last session, for bringing six hundred and ten men into the field, to recruit the Continental battalions raised by this state, there appears, by the return of the adjutant general, dated the 21st of this instant July, to be the following deficiencies in the quotas of men heretofore assigned to the towns hereafter named, to wit:

*Each Town's Proportion of Men to be furnished for the Continental Battalions in the State.*

Towns.	No. of Men.	Towns.	No. of Men.
Newport, - - -	4	Coventry, - - -	6
Warwick, - - -	10	Exeter, - - -	21
Westerly, - - -	2	Middletown, - - -	2
North Kingstown, - -	32	Tiverton, - - -	5
South Kingstown, - -	22	Warren, - - -	2
East Greenwich, - -	3	Cranston, - - -	4
Smithfield, - - -	7	Hopkinton, - - -	4
Scituate, - - -	7	North Providence, - -	3
Glocester, - - -	16		—
Charlestown, - -	5		163
West Greenwich, - -	8		—

And whereas, it is of the highest importance, that the said recruits should be immediately furnished,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that wherever the said deficiencies arise from the delinquency of the persons heretofore classed, the persons appointed to class and detach the quotas of militia apportioned to, and to be raised by the several towns within this state, are empowered and directed, on the 31st day of this instant July, to detach an

able-bodied, effective man from such delinquent class, and make a return thereof to the field officer of the regiment to which he belongs; and the person so detached, shall, in case of delinquency, be proceeded against in manner as is in said act directed.

And it is further voted and resolved, that wherever the said deficiency shall arise from the delinquency of any of the said towns, the persons heretofore appointed to make a detachment from the delinquent classes, be, and they are hereby, directed to form the inhabitants thereof into classes, agreeably to said deficiency, on the said 31st day of July; and that if any or either of the said classes shall not furnish an able-bodied man by the 1st day of August next, the persons appointed as aforesaid, be, and hereby are, directed on that day, to detach an able-bodied man from such class; and, in case of delinquency, cause him or his estate to be proceeded against in manner as is in and by the said act directed.

Provided nevertheless, and it is further voted and resolved, that if any alteration shall be made in the aforesaid deficiencies, by the persons appointed by this Assembly to make inquiry into and determine the same, then such towns or classes as may be thereupon delinquent, be required to furnish the number of men in which they are deficient, within the time aforesaid; and on failure thereof, the persons appointed for that purpose, are directed to class or detach (as the case may be), agreeably to this resolve.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if the persons appointed to class and detach as aforesaid, or either of them shall neglect or refuse so to do, within the time prescribed by this act, the attorney general be, and he is hereby, directed to proceed against such delinquent person or persons, in manner as is directed in the said act for such delinquency.

An Act for raising six hundred and thirty able-bodied, effective men.

Whereas, the army and fleet of the illustrious ally of these states, have arrived here and His Excellency General Washington hath, in the most pressing manner, called upon us to raise six hundred and thirty able-bodied effective men, in order to co-operate with them,—

It is therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that six hundred and thirty able-bodied and effective men be raised, and embodied in a battalion, and rendezvoused at Providence, on or before the 15th day of August next, if then ordered by the General Assembly or the council of war, or at such other time as they shall be ordered to rendezvous, and to continue on duty three months from the time of their receiving orders as aforesaid, unless sooner discharged by this Assembly; that the said battalion be divided into eight companies, and be officered by one lieutenant colonel-commandant, one major, eight captains, eight lieutenants and eight ensigns; that there be appointed to the said battalion one adjutant, one quartermaster, one surgeon and one surgeon's mate; and that the said officers and soldiers be entitled to the same pay and rations as the officers and soldiers in the Continental army, belonging to this state.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that for a proper encouragement for the soldiers aforesaid, to list voluntarily, each able-bodied man, who shall enlist into the said service, and shall take the usual oath, shall be paid upon his enlistment £7 10s., in bills emitted by this state, funded upon real estate, or the same sum in gold and silver, within six months, with an interest of five per centum per annum, at his election.

And it is further enacted, that the town treasurers of the several towns be, and they are hereby, empowered to draw a sufficient sum of money out of the general treasury, to pay the bounties of the men assigned to their respective towns by this act.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that for the more effectual and speedy raising the said battalion, the number to be raised, be proportioned to the several towns in the state, in the following manner, to wit:

### *Proportion of Men to be furnished by the several Towns.*

TOWNS.	No. of men.	TOWNS.	No. of men.
Newport .....	34	North Kingstown .....	32
Portsmouth .....	8	South Kingstown .....	46
Jamestown .....	3	Charlestown.....	17
Middletown .....	5	Richmond .....	16
Tiverton .....	23	Hopkinton .....	18
Little Compton .....	19	Exeter .....	25
Providence.....	42	Bristol.....	14
Smithfield .....	35	Warren.....	11
Glocester .....	40	Barrington .....	7
Scituate .....	45	Warwick .....	31
Cumberland.....	21	East Greenwich .....	19
Cranston.....	25	West Greenwich.....	22
Johnston.....	14	Coventry .....	25
North Providence.....	10		
Westerly .....	23		
			630

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if either or any of the towns aforesaid, shall not enlist their full quota of the men herein assigned and proportioned unto them, by the 1st day of August next, the persons hereafter named be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to form all male persons whatsoever, of the age of sixteen years and upwards, who have resided for the space of thirty days within their respective towns (deserters, Indians, mulattoes and negroes excepted), into classes, according to the deficiencies of their said towns, having regard to the number of polls, and value of estates of the persons so to be classed; and that they immediately give notice thereof, to the persons classed; and each of the said classes is directed to

furnish to the person or persons appointed by their respective towns to receive recruits one able-bodied, effective man, by the 10th day of August next.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the following persons be appointed committees in the respective towns, for the purpose aforesaid, to wit:

*Names of the Committees appointed by the several Towns to receive Recruits.*

Newport—Messrs. Robert Taylor, Job Easton, Christopher Ellery, William Taggart and John Topham.

Providence—Messrs. Jabez Bowen, John Brown, John Mathewson, Theodore Foster, Levi Hall, Nathaniel Wheaton and John Demount.

Portsmouth—Messrs. David Giffard, Alexander Thomas, William Anthony, Jr., Thomas Shearman and John Wilcox, Jr.

Warwick—Messrs. Robert Rhodes, Thomas Rice (son of Thomas), Job Randall, Squire Miller, John Waterman and Col. Benjamin Arnold.

Westerly—Messrs. William Pendleton (son of Simon), Joseph Crandall, John Babcock, Nathan Lanpher, Elkanah Babcock and Edward Saunders.

North Kingstown—Messrs. William Hammond, Joseph Coggeshall, Daniel Hall, Lawrence Pearce, James Albro and Joseph Case, Jr.

South Kingstown—Messrs. Thomas Potter, Jr., John Gardner, Samuel Babcock, Robert Brown and Carder Hazard.

East Greenwich—Messrs. Job Pearce, Rufus Spencer, William Arnold, Isaac Johnston and Allen Johnston.

Jamestown—Messrs. Benjamin Underwood, John Gardner and George Tew.

Smithfield—Messrs. Peleg Arnold, John Sayles, John Angell, Andrew Waterman, Stephen Whipple, Ebenezer Trask and Edward Thompson.

Scituate—Messrs. Stephen Kimball, Joseph Knight, Jonathan Knight, Coomer Smith, William Howland, Isaac Hopkins, Simeon Herrenden and Benedict Whipple.

Glocester—Messrs. Chad Brown, John Smith, Stephen Winsor, Solomon Owen, Jonah Steere, Elisha Bartlett and Caleb Arnold.

Charlestown—Messrs. Joseph Stanton, Jr., Joseph Hoxsie and James Congdon, Jr.

West Greenwich—Messrs. Joseph Hopkins, Jr., Samuel Hopkins, Jr., Thomas Joslyn, Thomas Gorton and Jonathan Niles.

Coventry—Messrs. Stephen Potter, Samuel Wall, Archibald Kasson, William Burlingame and William Ray.

Exeter—Messrs. John Chapman, Jonathan Bates, Jr., George Peirce, Samuel Gorton and John Hoxsie.

Middletown—Messrs. Thomas Peckham, Oliver Durfee and Giles Sanford.

Bristol—Messrs. Peter Church, Charles De Wolfe, Shearjashub Bourne, Jr., Josiah Finney, John Howland, Jr. and Loring Peck.

Tiverton—Messrs. John Cooke, Isaac Manchester, Lemuel Bailey, Pearce Perry and George Westcot.

Little Compton—Messrs. Nathaniel Church, Perez Richmond and Philip Taylor.

Warren—Messrs. Nathan Miller, Sylvester Child, Daniel Cole, Robert Carr and Wm. Barton.

Cumberland—Messrs. John Dexter, Simon Whipple, George Peck, Nathan Staples, Nathaniel Shepardson and Elisha Waterman.

Richmond—Messrs. Jonathan Maxson, Thomas Tefft, Edward Perry, George Webb and Richard Bailey, Jr.

Cranston—Messrs. Nehemiah Knight, Caleb Potter, Job Manchester, William Field and Richard Searle.

Hopkinton—Messrs. Edward Wells, John Maxson, Samuel Babcock, William Thurston and Robert Burdick.

Johnston—Messrs. John Waterman, Jr., Noah Mathewson, Andrew Harris, Daniel Manton and William Latham.

North Providence—Messrs. Eleazer Jenckes, Eleazer Whipple, Hope Angell, Thos. Olney and Christopher Whipple.

Barrington—Messrs. Samuel Allen, John Short, Vial Allen, Thomas Allen and Nathaniel Smith.

It is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that in case either of the said classes shall refuse or neglect to furnish an able-bodied man, as aforesaid, this Assembly, or the council of war, will, whenever the exigencies of the public shall require, direct the aforesaid committees respectively, who, or the major part of them, shall be, and hereby are, empowered and directed thereupon to detach from the class which shall be deficient, as aforesaid, an able-bodied, effective man, to fill the said battalion; that the person so detached, shall be entitled to the bounty, wages and allowances which are received by the persons who may enlist into the said battalion, by virtue of this act, and to such other allowances, if any, as shall be ordered by the persons who shall make such detachment, to be assessed upon the said delinquent class, agreeably to the proportion by which the last state tax was assessed upon the persons who compose the same; that in the said assessment, the estates of all persons who are absent from this state, and all other estates, whether belonging to absentees or not, shall be considered, and shall be at a proportionable part of the expense that shall accrue to the class to which the same shall be put; that if any of the said classes shall agree with, and hire for such class, an able, effective man, to enlist voluntarily into the said battalion, for a larger bounty than is herein allowed, the committee aforesaid, shall, if such class cannot agree among themselves, assess the same upon the estates of the said class who shall refuse, if the committee shall think the sum given reasonable and right, in the same manner as though the person had been detached out of the said class; and that the said assessment shall be delivered to the collector of taxes of the town to which such delinquent class belongs, or to such person as the committee shall appoint, who is thereupon directed to collect and pay the same, within the time and agreeably to the orders he shall receive therewith.

Provided nevertheless, and it is hereby declared, that those who shall enlist voluntarily, shall receive the bounty by this act allowed, upon their passing muster; but that no person shall be entitled to the wages, until he be detached or ordered to march to the place of rendezvous.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any person or persons shall impede or discourage the enlisting or procuring the men to fill the said battalion, agreeably to this act, the said committee are hereby directed forthwith to detach every such person as a recruit, to do duty in the said battalion, agreeably to this act.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the persons who shall make such detachment, make a return thereof to the brigadier general, or to one of the field officers of the regiment to which the person detached shall belong; that such brigadier general, or field officer, shall cause the person so detached, to be and appear at the place of rendezvous, as soon as possible after orders from this Assembly, or the council of war, shall issue for the said battalion to be rendezvoused; and that the council of war be, and hereby are, empowered to call out the said men, and order them forward to the place of rendezvous, whenever the same shall be required by His Excellency General Washington.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that every person who shall enlist, or be detached into the said battalion, shall be reckoned and accounted unto the town whereof he is an inhabitant; that no person shall be enlisted into the said battal-

ion, who is inhibited from enlisting into the Continental army by the resolves of Congress; that six shillings, in the bills emitted by this Assembly, at the session in June last, be allowed for enlisting each and every person who shall pass muster; and that the major general, and each of the brigadiers general of the militia of this state, and Col. John Topham, be, and they are hereby, severally appointed muster-master for the said battalion.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any person, who shall be detached as aforesaid, shall absent himself, and not be to be found, and shall not procure an able-bodied, effective man to do the duty in his stead, for which he shall be detached as aforesaid, within the time aforesaid, such a part of the estate of the person so detached, shall be taken and disposed of, by the persons who shall make such detachment as shall be sufficient to procure an able-bodied man, to do the said duty in his stead; that the persons who shall have made such detachments, are thereupon directed to appropriate the money in procuring an able-bodied, effective man, accordingly; that; such person so detached, shall not be possessed of a sufficient estate for that purpose the commanding officer of the regiment to which he belongs, shall advertise in all the public newspapers in this state, the person who shall absent himself as aforesaid, as a delinquent, and offer a reward of £300, lawful money, to be paid by this state, to the person or persons who shall apprehend such delinquent; that upon such delinquent being apprehended, the said officer is directed to deliver him to some one of the officers of the Continental battalions raised by this state, to do duty as a soldier therein, for the space of one year; and that if any person, who shall be classed as aforesaid, cannot be found, to be notified thereof, he shall be proceeded against in manner as afore directed, in case he had been duly notified thereof.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that a major part of the persons, by this act appointed in either of the towns, to class and detach the said men, be, and they are hereby, constituted a committee for the purposes of their appointment, and empowered to act and do every thing in their respective towns by this act enjoined them.

And whereas, the refusal or neglect of the persons by this act appointed to class and detach the men, &c., will defeat the important purposes thereof,—

It is therefore further enacted, that if either of the said persons appointed as aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to class or detach such men, who may be deficient as aforesaid, within the time aforesaid; or who shall not perform the other duties enjoined upon him by this act, for bringing the said men into the field, and shall be thereof convicted, by the verdict of his peers, before the superior court of judicature, court of assize, and general jail delivery, in the county where such offender shall dwell, the person so convicted, shall be adjudged and sentenced by the said court, to be forever incapable of bearing any office, civil or military, within this state; and also to pay all costs of prosecution and conviction; provided, that process shall be commenced against such delinquent within six months from such delinquency, and not after.

And it is further enacted, that the general, field and commissioned officers of the militia within this state, be, and they are hereby, called upon and directed to afford their utmost aid and assistance in carrying this act into execution.

And it is further enacted, that the committee aforesaid, as soon as they shall have classed the inhabitants of their respective towns, are hereby empowered and directed to convene every male inhabitant in their respective towns, who are subject to be classed as aforesaid, so that the execution of this act may not be in the least delayed; and that the secretary immediately cause this act to be printed, and send a copy thereof, to each town clerk in this state.

An Act for assessing a tax upon the inhabitants of this state, of £400,000, in Continental bills.

An Act for assessing and apportioning a rate or tax of £400,000, lawful money, upon the inhabitants of this state.

An Act for furnishing the soldiers who shall enlist into this state's service for three months, with guns and necessary accoutrements.

[The above acts will be found at length in the printed Schedules.]

It is voted and resolved, that a tax of £400,000 in Continental bills, be assessed upon the polls and ratable estates of the inhabitants of this state; that the same be collected and paid into the general treasury monthly; that one-fourth part thereof, be collected and paid into the general treasury on or before the 1st day of September next, and the remaining three-fourth parts thereof, in equal proportions on or before the first day of the three next succeeding months; and that William Taggart, Welcome Arnold, Rowse J. Helme, Nathan Miller and Thomas Holden, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee, to apportion the said tax to the several towns, agreeably to the estimate established at the present session; and that they draught a bill accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that a state tax of £5,000, in silver or gold, or the bills of the new emission, issued by this state, be levied and assessed on the polls and ratable estates of the inhabitants of this state, to be collected and paid into the general treasury, on or before the 1st day of September next; that interest be allowed on the said bills, which shall be paid into the treasury for the said tax, to the said first day of September; and that William Taggart, Welcome Arnold, Rowse J. Helme, Nathan Miller and Thomas Holden, Esq., and the auditor, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to apportion the same to the several towns, agreea-

bly to the estimate established at the present session ; and that they draught a bill accordingly.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said committee be, and they are hereby, directed to apportion to the several towns another tax of £5,000, to be apportioned and paid in manner as aforesaid ; it being the tax ordered to be assessed by the act for emitting the said bills ; and that they draught a bill accordingly.

An Act regulating the markets in Newport.

[For this act, see printed Schedule.]

It is voted and resolved, that \$5,000, in Continental bills, be advanced and paid out of the general treasury, to Daniel Box, Esq. ; and that the same be charged to him, in his account for depreciation of wages.

Whereas, in many of the late state and Continental taxes, which have been assessed on the inhabitants of this state the General Assembly, in the acts for assessing the same did resolve in the words following :

“ That if it shall appear by the estimate which is to be taken of the valuation of estates within this state, that any town therein shall be over-taxed, that it shall, and may be, in the power of each town so over burthened, to deduct the same out of the tax assessed upon its inhabitants, agreeably to the said estimate, and to pay the same into their town treasury, for the benefit of the said town ; and if it shall appear by the said estimate, that any town hath not, by the aforesaid proportion, been taxed up to its value, that deficiency shall be laid upon such town in the next tax made after the said estimate shall be received and established.”

And whereas, the said estimate hath been received and established, by an act passed at the present session of this Assembly,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that William Taggart Welcome Arnold, Rowse J. Helme, Nathan Miller and Thos.

Holden, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to ascertain the sums due to, or from, any of the towns in this state, by virtue of the resolves above recited; and that they report to this Assembly at the next session, in order that the justice promised in the said recited clause, may be done as soon as may be.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the town of Newport, preferred unto this Assembly, representing that M'Intosh Alexander, a native of this country, and a friend to the same, who was captured in a British vessel, bound from London to New York, is now held as a prisoner of war in the city of Philadelphia, and praying the interposition of this Assembly, that he may be liberated, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to write to His Excellency the president of the executive council of the state of Pennsylvania, soliciting his influence and assistance, to effect the liberation of the said M'Intosh Alexander, that he may return to his family.

Whereas, it is necessary that this Assembly should be acquainted with the grants from time to time made out of, as well as of all money ordered to be paid into the general treasury,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the secretary be, and he is hereby, directed to procure a suitable book, at the expense of the state; and that at the end of every session of this Assembly, he enter therein a just and fair account of all money ordered to be paid into, or received out of the general treasury, by any person whatsoever, in consequence of orders from this Assembly, or the council of war, in order that the state of the treasury may be readily ascertained; and that he cause the said book to be brought to every session of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that John Handy, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to receive of the agent-clothier and commissary of hides and tallow, the clothing allowed the new recruits in Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment;

that he deliver the same to the said recruits, taking proper receipts therefor; and that he make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

Whereas, many of the recruits which have been raised to fill up the Continental battalions in this state, are claimed by different towns; wherefore, in order to settle the disputes which have thence arisen, and to ascertain the great deficiencies of the several towns in raising their proportions of the said men,—

It is voted and resolved, that James M. Varnum, Edward Fenner and Benjamin Bourne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, empowered to hear and determine on the claims which may be made and exhibited to them by the towns, for men enlisted into the said battalions; and that they report to this Assembly at the present session.

Whereas, there are many claims arising from debts, and otherwise, against the estates of absentees confiscated, in the possession of this state, or informed against; and whereas, it is necessary, as well to render justice to the claimants as to the state, that the same be ascertained,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that William Channing, Caleb Harris, Gideon Hoxsie, Benjamin Bourne and Adam Comstock, Esqs., be, and they, or the major part of them, are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into all the claims against any of the estates aforesaid, of whatever name or kind; that the said committee convene successively in the counties of Newport, Kings and Bristol; at either of which places, any of the claims aforesaid, may be made; and that previous to their sitting in either of the said counties, they notify the time and place of such meeting two weeks successively in the Newport and Providence newspapers.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said committee be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to hear the respective claims aforesaid, together with the evidence attending the same; and to state the demands of each claimant, and the particular circumstances relating thereto,

in case of doubt, with regard to the propriety thereof; and that they make report as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that the persons in the several towns in this state, who collected blankets for the six months' men, be, and they are hereby, directed to exhibit their respective accounts, for their time and expenses, in transacting the said business, to this Assembly at the next session, that the same may be then examined by a committee to be appointed for that purpose.

It is voted and resolved, that Daniel Mowry, Rowse J. Helme, William Richmond and Thomas Holden, Esqs., four of the committee who took the last general estimate, be, and they are hereby, severally empowered to draw the sum of £600, lawful money, in Continental bills, out of the general treasury; and that the same be charged to them in their accounts for taking the said estimate.

Whereas, Capt. Henry Dayton, of the Light Corps, lately commanded by Colonel William Barton, hath represented to this Assembly, that the men under his command are reduced to a very inconsiderable number; and that their times of service are nearly expired; and thereupon requested a discharge from the service,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Henry Dayton, and the men under his command, be, and they are hereby, discharged the service.

An Act for assessing and apportioning a rate or tax of £400,000, lawful money, upon the inhabitants of this state.

[See printed Schedule for this act.]

An Act for assessing an apportioning a rate or tax of £10,000, lawful money, payable in gold or silver, or in the bills emitted by this General Assembly, at the session on the second Monday in June last.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

Whereas, it is of the utmost importance, that the public records of this state, the proceedings of the council of war, and the acts of this Assembly should be brought up, and that the acts of this Assembly should be delivered out at every session thereof, agreeably to the invariable practice of this state; and whereas, this state has been frequently called upon by Congress to transmit to them copies of the acts of this Assembly from time to time,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that John I. Clarke and Welcome Arnold, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to confer with the secretary upon that subject; that they devise some suitable method for effecting the same; and that they make report to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, a part of the personal estate of Myer Polock, late of Newport, deceased, hath, by order of the council of war, been taken possession of by the sheriff of the county of Newport, and a sum of money due to the said estate detained in the hands of the quartermaster general; and whereas, there are debts due from the said estate, and no administrator hath as yet been appointed to adjust and discharge the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the town council of the town of Newport be, and they are hereby, directed to appoint an administrator to the said estate according to law; and that the person who shall be so appointed, be, and he is hereby, empowered to receive from the said sheriff and quartermaster general, the goods and money aforesaid, and to administer thereon, agreeably to law.

Whereas, it is necessary that His Excellency Gen. Washington should be acquainted with the acts of this Assembly for calling out the militia,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to write to His Excellency General Washington, and acquaint him with the reasons why the militia have not been called out by the 25th inst.,

agreeably to his requisition, and with the measures now taken by this Assembly, for calling them out.\*

It is voted and resolved, that George Irish, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw £800, lawful money, out of the general treasury, and that he account for the same.

Whereas, in the late act of this Assembly, for raising six hundred and ten men, to fill up this state's quota of the Continental battalions, the men were proportioned to the several towns; and whereas, divers of the men enlisted for the purpose aforesaid, have been claimed by different towns,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that any person, being a legal inhabitant of any town in this state, who hath been enlisted for, and by any other town in this state, on or before the 12th instant (it being the day for detaching the men, agreeably to the said mentioned act), shall be credited to the town of which he is an inhabitant, as aforesaid; provided, the town claiming him, and of which he is an inhabitant, shall pay, or tender, unto the town treasurer of the town which enlisted him, the sum of £15 12s., in the same kind of money that was given to the said soldier as a

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\* *Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, July 24, 1780.

Sir:—Agreeably to the resolution of the General Assembly of this day, I am directed to inform Your Excellency that early in the session, the Assembly took up the matter of sending forward the militia by the 25th instant, agreeably to your requisition for that purpose, but it was thought most advisable to postpone the sending them forward, until further order of Your Excellency; by reason that the British fleet, consisting of about eighteen sail, nine of which capital ships have been for two or three days, and now are in sight of our harbor.

The Assembly have passed a resolve for raising six hundred and thirty effective men, for three months from the time of their arriving at the place of rendezvous assigned them, by classing them in the different towns; and in case they are not furnished by the classes within a limited time, they are to be detached from the different classes until the whole number is completed, and are to be held in readiness to march at a minute's warning, and not to be upon pay until ordered to march to the place of rendezvous.

Whenever Your Excellency shall transmit your orders, they shall be immediately detached and forwarded to such place as shall be assigned.

I have the honor to be, &c.

WILLIAM GREENE.

To General Washington.

bounty, within four days from the rising of this Assembly, and not otherwise.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that every person enlisted, or who shall be hereafter enlisted by any town, for the purpose aforesaid, shall be credited to the town enlisting them, they being legal inhabitants of, or residing in any town in this state, notwithstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that the draught of a letter to His Excellency General Washington, presented unto this Assembly, be, and the same hereby is, approved; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to sign and transmit the same.

An Act for sinking this state's quota, agreeably to the present apportionment of all the public bills of credit which have been emitted by Congress; and for emitting, on the credit of this state, other bills of credit, not to exceed the sum of £39,000; and for providing funds to secure the redemption of the bills so emitted, by the last day of December, 1786, recommended by a resolution of Congress of the 18th of March, in the present year.

Whereas, the United States of America have been driven into this just and necessary war, before the several states were sufficiently organized to enforce the collection of taxes, or to provide funds for the redemption of such bills of credit as their necessities obliged them to issue; and before the powers of Europe were sufficiently convinced of the justice of their cause, or of the probable event of the controversy, to afford them aid or credit; in consequence of which, their bills increasing in quantity beyond the sum necessary for the purpose of a circulating medium, and wanting sufficient funds to rest on for their redemption, have daily sunk in value, whereby it hath been necessary to reduce the quantity of the said bills, and to establish and appropriate funds that shall ensure the punctual redemption of the bills which may be emitted on the credit of this state, for the purpose of calling in and destroying this state's quota of the present paper medium in circulation.

And whereas, Congress, by their said resolution of the 18th day of March, have called upon the several states to make proper provision for the purposes aforesaid,—

Be it enacted by the General Assembly, and by the authority of the same it is enacted, that a tax be assessed of £420,000, lawful money, over and above the tax of £360,000, ordered to be levied at the February and May sessions of the General Assembly of this state the said three taxes being sufficient to draw out of circulation this state's proportion of the present currency; to be levied on the polls and estates, both real and personal, of the inhabitants and proprietors within this state, according to such conditions and rules and in such proportion, in the several towns within this state, and under such penalties, as the last tax hath been assessed or ordered, until other rules and proportions shall be agreed upon and ordered by the General Assembly of this state; that is to say, that £210,000 be assessed by the several towns within this state by the 1st day of September next; one-third part thereof to be paid into the general treasury of this state on or before the 1st day of October next; one-third part thereof to be paid into the general treasury of this state on or before the 1st day of November next; and one-third part thereof to be paid into the general treasury of this state on or before the 1st day of December next; that £210,000, to complete this state's proportion of the said £420,000

circulating medium, be assessed by the several towns within this state, by the 1st day of December next; one-third part thereof, to be paid into the general treasury of this state on or before the 1st day of January next; one-third part thereof to be paid into the general treasury of this state on or before the 1st day of February next; and the remaining third part thereof to be paid into general treasury of this state on or before the 1st day of March next; and that the said sums, when so paid, shall be paid into the Continental loan office in this state, by the general treasurer.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the assessors or rate-makers, shall assess and proportion the said mentioned sums, amounting to £420,000, on or before the times above ordered and directed, and return lists or bills of the same unto the clerk of the town to which they respectively belong, within fifteen days after such assessments so respectively made, as abovesaid; and the said town clerk is directed and hereby required to send a copy thereof, with the names of the town treasurer and collector of taxes of the same town, within six days from the time of his receiving the same, to the general treasurer, who is hereby directed and required to issue his warrant within four days, to the several collectors of rates and taxes of the respective towns, requiring them, in the name of the Governor and Company of this state, to levy, collect and pay unto the general treasurer for the time being, the several sums respectively committed to them to collect.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that silver and gold, and also the new bills that may be issued by Congress, on the funds of this state, established for that purpose, shall be received in payment of said taxes, at the rate of \$1 in specie, or of the new emission, in lieu of \$40 of the bills now in circulation.

And in order to furnish a circulating medium, in lieu of the bills so called in to be destroyed,—

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that there be emitted, on the funds herein after provided, and the faith of the United States, as pledged by their resolution aforesaid, a sum not exceeding the sum of £39,000, in bills of credit, bearing an annual interest of five per centum, and that the face of the bills to be emitted, read as follows, to wit:

### *Form of the Bills of Credit.*

*"The possessor of this bill shall be paid ————— Spanish milled dollars, by the 31st day of December, 1786, with the interest in like money, at the rate of five per centum per annum, by the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations; according to an act of the legislature of the said state, of the 24th day of July, 1780."*

And that there be an endorsement on each, as follows:

*"The United States insure the payment of the within bill, and will draw bills of exchange for the interest annually, if demanded, according to a resolution of Congress, of the 18th of March, 1780."*

The said endorsement to be signed by such commissioners as Congress shall appoint for that purpose.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the bills which may issue on this act, shall be redeemable in specie, by the said 31st day of December, 1786; as also the interest thereof, paid at the redemption of the bills, or, at the election of the holder, annually, according to the said resolution of Congress, and the promises in the said bills; and said bills to be emitted shall be completed no faster than in the proportion of one to twenty of the other bills brought in to be destroyed, and which shall be lodged for that purpose in the Continental loan office, in this state.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that there shall be appointed, on the part of this state, six commissioners; any two of whom, and no more, together with the commissioner that is or may be appointed by Congress, shall complete said bills, by signing and numbering the same before the emission thereof.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that as fast as said bills to be emitted shall be completed, six-tenths therof in value, shall be received into the treasury of this state, to be issued from time to time, to support the war, or defray other charges of the state, as the General Assembly for the time being may order and direct; the other four-tenths to be subject to the orders of Congress, and carried to the credit of this state.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that whenever interest on the bills to be emitted, shall be paid prior to the time fixed for their redemption, such bills shall be thereupon exchanged for other bills of the like tenor, to bear date from the expiration of the year for which such interest is paid; and the commissioners on the part of this state, or any two of them, are hereby authorized to join with the commissioner of Congress in completing such other bills for that purpose.

And in order to establish funds effectually to secure the punctual redemption of the bills to be emitted on the credit of this state, and to make effectual provision for the redemption of the said bills, with the interest.—

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that a tax be assessed of £8,450, annually, for six years, viz.: on or before the 20th day of May, in the years 1781, 1782, 1783, 1784, 1785 and 1786, to be levied on the polls and estates, both real and personal, of the inhabitants and proprietors within this state, according to such conditions and rules, and in such proportion, in the several towns within this state, and under such penalties, as the Continental tax in May last, hath been assessed or ordered, until other rules and proportions shall be agreed upon and ordered by the General Assembly of this state, and to be paid into the general treasury of this state on or before the last day of December, in the several years last above mentioned.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the assessors or rate-makers for the times being, in the abovesaid years, shall assess and proportion the said last mentioned taxes agreeably to the times above ordered and directed, and return lists or bills of the same unto the clerk of the town to which they shall respectively belong, within fifteen days after such assessment so respectively made as above said; and the town clerks respectively, for the said several years for the time being, are directed and hereby required to send a copy thereof, with the names of the town treasurers and collectors of taxes of the same towns, within six days from the time of their receiving the same lists or bills, to the general treasurer, who is hereby directed and required to issue his warrant, within ten days, to the said several collectors of rates or taxes of the respective towns, requiring them, in the name of the Governor and Company of this state, to levy, collect and pay unto the general treasurer for the time being, the several sums respectively committed to them to collect.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the said last mentioned taxes for the years 1781, 1782, 1783, 1784, 1785 and 1786, shall be appropriated to, and applied for the redemption of the bills which may be emitted on the credit of this state, pursuant to the resolution of Congress aforesaid; and the same taxes shall be paid in the several species of gold and silver coins current in this state before the present war, and at the rates they then passed; or in uncoined silver of sterling alloy, at six shillings and eightpence an ounce; or in uncoined gold of like alloy, at £5 1s. 4d., an ounce; or in the new bills that may be issued by Congress, on the funds of this state, established for that purpose, at the rate of dollar for dollar.

Provided nevertheless, that if the General Assembly of this state, shall, by taxing or otherwise, draw into the treasury, not to be re-issued, all or any part of the bills to be emitted as aforesaid, redeemable in any of the said last mentioned years, as the quota

for that year; or gold or silver, the general treasurer, in issuing his warrant, shall issue the same for so much only of the tax for that purpose, charged in that year, as shall be sufficient, with the bills, or gold and silver drawn in as aforesaid, to complete the redemption of that year's quota of the bills aforesaid.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the bills of credit, to be emitted as aforesaid, shall be received in all payments within this state; and a tender of the same may be pleaded to any action brought for the recovery of any money or other demand, and shall avail as though the tender had been made in gold or silver, except for debts and contracts made before the 20th day of May, A. D. 1775; or special contracts for gold or silver, or the bills of the new emission of this state, funded on real estate, at any time since made, or that may be made, or for the satisfaction of legacies or donations, expressly made payable in gold or silver, or the said new bills.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that from and after the publication of this act, if any person or persons, within this state or elsewhere, prepare, engrave, stamp, forge or print, the counterfeit resemblance of any paper bills of credit which shall be emitted by virtue of this act, or shall counterfeit or sign the name or names of the signer or signers of said bills of credit to such bills of credit, with an intention that such counterfeit bills of credit shall be passed in payments, or received as genuine and good bills, whether the same shall be passed or received or not; or if any person or persons shall within this state pass, pay, or tender in payment, any such counterfeit money, or deliver the same to any person or persons, with intent that they be passed, paid or received, as and for good and genuine, knowing the same to be forged or counterfeited; every such person, being thereof lawfully convicted before the superior court of judicature and court of assize within this state, by verdict of a jury, or confession of the party offending, or being indicted thereof shall stand mute, or not directly answer to the indictment, or shall peremptorily challenge more than twenty persons, legally returned to be of the jury for the trial of such offender, shall be adjudged a felon, and suffer death, without benefit of clergy; and if any person or persons shall counterfeit any of the said bills of credit, by altering the denomination thereof, with design to increase the value of such bills, or shall utter such bills, knowing them to be so counterfeited or altered, and shall be thereof lawfully convicted before the said superior court, such person or persons shall be sentenced to the pillory, and have both his or her ears cut off, and nailed to the pillory, and be publicly whipped thirty-nine lashes on his or her naked back, well laid on; and moreover, every such offender shall forfeit the sum of £500, lawful money, to be levied on his or her lands and tenements, goods and chattels; the one moiety to the use of this state, and the other moiety to the use of the discoverer; and the offender shall pay to the party aggrieved double the value of the damages thereby sustained; and shall also pay all costs of prosecution and conviction.

And in case the offender hath not sufficient to satisfy the discoverer for his or her damages and charges, and to pay the forfeiture aforesaid, in such case the offender shall, by order of the court where he or she shall be convicted, be sold as a servant, for any term not exceeding seven years, for satisfaction.

Whereas, it is represented to this Assembly, that the inhabitants of the towns of Newport and Portsmouth are desirous of associating for the defence thereof against the enemies of this and the United States,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said inhabitants be, and they are hereby, empowered to associate for the defence of the said towns; to form themselves into com-

panies, and to nominate the necessary officers; who being returned to, and approved by His Excellency the Governor, shall be commissioned accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee who took the general estimate, established at the present session, be, and they are hereby, directed to lay their account for taking the said estimate, before this Assembly at the next session, that it may be examined by a committee during the same.

Whereas, claims have been exhibited to this General Assembly, by the towns hereafter named, to the following recruits, to wit:

Caleb Strange, enlisted by Middletown, and claimed by Portsmouth.

Toby Coys, enlisted by Tiverton, and claimed by Charlestown.

Daniel Penny and Charles Daniels, enlisted by Jamestown, and claimed by Charlestown.

Gideon Nocake, enlisted by South Kingstown, and claimed by Charlestown.

John Popple, enlisted by Newport, and claimed by Westerly.

Luke Saunders, enlisted by South Kingstown, and claimed by Westerly.

Philip Driskill, enlisted by Richmond, and claimed by Westerly.

William Hicks, enlisted by Charlestown, and claimed by Middletown.

Cary Pitman, enlisted by Tiverton, and claimed by Newport.

Godfrey White, enlisted by Hopkinton, and claimed by Newport.

Samuel Gould, enlisted by East Greenwich, and claimed by Newport.

Obadiah Ralph, enlisted by Scituate, and claimed by Cranston; and—

John Griffiths, enlisted by Smithfield, and claimed by Newport.

And this Assembly having heard the claims aforesaid, together with the evidence, and having considered the same,—

Do vote and resolve, and it is voted and resolved, that the persons afore named, be credited to, and considered as part of the quotas of the towns aforesaid, respectively, as followeth, to wit:

Galeb Strange, to Portsmouth.

Toby Coys, to Tiverton.

Daniel Penny and Charles Daniels, to Jamestown.

Gideon Nocake, to South Kingstown.

John Popple, to Westerly.

Luke Saunders, to South Kingstown.

Philip Driskill, to Richmond.

William Hicks, to Charlestown.

Cary Pitman, to Tiverton.

Godfrey White, to Hopkinton.

Samuel Gould, to East Greenwich; and—

Obadiah Ralph, to Scituate.

And whereas, claims have been also exhibited by several towns, for recruits raised by other towns; and this Assembly not knowing whether the said recruits claimed, were enlisted previous to the day for classing and detaching of men, to complete this state's Continental battalions, agreeably to a late act of this Assembly, or afterwards,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the following persons be, and they are hereby, empowered to ascertain the said fact in the several claims committed to them, respectively, to wit:

The claim of the town of Westerly, to Clarke Hiscox and Frederick Chace; one of them enlisted by Richmond, and the other by Jamestown.

The claims of the town of Newport, to Joseph Dunham and John Maxson; one enlisted by Hopkinton, and the other by Richmond; and—

The claim of Exeter to John Wilbur, are referred to Rowse J. Helme, Esq.

The claim of Newport to Jonathan Lewis, enlisted by Johnston.

The claim of Johnston to Edward Tripp, enlisted by North Providence; and—

The claims of South Kingstown to James Anthony and Elisha Anthony, enlisted by Johnston, are referred to Welcome Arnold, Esq.

The claim of South Kingstown to James M'Sparran, enlisted by Richmond, is referred to Joseph Noyes, Esq.; and—

The claims of Providence to John Griffiths and Philip Justice; one enlisted by Smithfield, and the other by Little Compton, are referred to Edward Fenner, Esq.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if either of the committee-men, aforesaid, shall determine that the soldier, who is claimed as aforesaid, was enlisted previous to the day for classing and detaching as aforesaid, in such case he shall be credited to the town whereof he is a legal inhabitant; but if such committee-man shall determine that such soldier was enlisted after the day for classing and detaching as aforesaid, then he shall be credited to the town which enlisted him.

Whereas, Samuel Goldthwait, late of the town of Newport, merchant, hath withdrawn himself from the said town, to the city of New York, in the power, and under the authority of the king of Great Britain, without the permission of the legislative or executive authority of this state; and whereas, the said Samuel Goldthwait hath left certain articles of furniture, and other personal estate in the said town of Newport,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Newport be, and he is hereby, directed to take into his possession all the personal estate of the said Samuel Goldthwait; and that he take an inventory of the same,

and make return thereof to the attorney general, who is hereby directed to file an information against the same, to the first term of the superior court, which shall be holden in the county of Newport; and all persons in possession of any of the said estate, are hereby required to give notice thereof to the said sheriff, that the same may be taken and disposed of, agreeably to this resolution.

It is voted and resolved, that the town treasurers of the several towns in this state be, and they are hereby, empowered to draw such a sum, in the bills of the new emission of this state, funded on real estate, as, with what has already been advanced to them, will be sufficient to pay the bounties of £15, lawful money, heretofore ordered by this Assembly to be paid to the six months' men who should be raised to recruit this state's Continental battalions; that the said town treasurers be also empowered to draw the allowance of six shillings, in like money, for the enlistment of each man, as in the acts for raising the said men is mentioned; and that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver the said bounties and allowances, agreeably to the quotas of men assigned each town respectively.

Both houses being resolved into a grand committee, chose the following officers, to wit:

*Justice of the Court of Common Pleas for Newport County, and Officers of the Militia chosen.*

Pardon Gray, Gray, Esq., fifth justice of the inferior court of common pleas and general sessions of the peace, within and for the county of Newport, in the room of Walter Cooke, Esq., who hath resigned.

Officers to command the regiment ordered at the present session to be raised for three months, to wit:

Jesse Maxson, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant.

Christopher Manchester, Esq., major.

John Carr, Timothy Locke, James Miller, Aaron Man, William Lawless, Seth Chapin and Lawrence Pierce, captains.

Joseph James, John Miller, Rufus Barton, John Peirce, Peleg Simmons, and Loring Jenckes, lieutenants.

William Bliss, Jr., William Kinyon, James Cotterell, Walter White and Henry Freeborn, ensigns.

Officers of the militia, to wit:

Robert Elliott, Esq., colonel, of artillery throughout the state, with the rank of brigadier general.

James Albro, captain; James Eldred, lieutenant; and John Vaughan, cornet, of the troop of horse of the second battalion, in the county of Kings.

Richard Updike, captain; and James Boone, lieutenant, of the artillery company, of the same battalion.

Joshua Pearce, captain; Caleb Hill, lieutenant; and Joseph Eldred, ensign, of the senior class company, in the town of North Kingstown.

Robert Perrigo, lieutenant, of the second company of militia, in the town of Exeter.

Oliver Durfee, captain; Joseph Allen, lieutenant; and John Peabody, ensign, of the company of militia, in the town of Middletown.

An Act for furnishing the soldiers who shall enlist into this state's service for three months, with guns, and necessary accoutrements.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

Whereas, the inhabitants of Rhode Island and Jamestown have been deprived of their arms by the enemy, and are now totally destitute of the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Major General Heath be, and he is hereby, requested to furnish the men apportioned and to be raised by the several towns on the islands of Rhode Island and Jamestown, to do duty for the

term of three months, with fire-arms, from the Continental store; and that this state will cause the same to be replaced.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said arms be repaired at the expense of this state; and that Robert Taylor and Robert Elliott, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to receive, repair and deliver the same, agreeably to this resolution.

It is voted and resolved, that Adam Comstock, Metcalf Bowler, Thomas Rumreill, William Channing, Caleb Harris and Rowse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed commissioners, to sign and number the bills of public credit, to be emitted in pursuance of a resolution of Congress, and an act of this Assembly, passed at the present session; and that they be allowed the same commissions for signing this state's bills of the last emission.

It is further voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to pay into the Continental loan office the money which shall be hereafter paid into the general treasury, in payment of the Continental tax, which hath been, or shall be, assessed for calling the Continental money out of circulation; and that the general treasurer receive from time to time out of the said loan office, so many of the said bills as shall be equal to the sum by him deposited in the said office, to be signed, numbered and disposed of, agreeably to the said resolution of Congress and the aforesaid act of this Assembly.

And it is further voted and resolved, that a copy hereof, and of the act of this Assembly for emitting the said money, be transmitted to Congress, and published in the Newport and one of the Providence newspapers.

Voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Joseph Brown, for sweeping and cleaning the state house, in Newport .....	12 00 00
Benjamin James, for mending a lock and key for the jail, in Newport.....	3 00 00
Samuel Ward, for depreciation account.....	150 00 00
William Channing and John G. Wanton, for taking a list of the mortgage bonds in the grand committee's office.....	360 00 00
Dr. Thomas Cole, surgeon of Col. Christopher Greene's regiment, to pur- chase necessaries for the sick.....	264 00 00
William Davis, sheriff, Newport county, for attendance on the courts.....	157 07 00
Pay abstracts of Lieut. William Southworth's company .....	594 19 04
Pay abstracts of Lieut. Stephen Pearce's company .....	122 06 08
Isaac Wood, of Little Compton, for warning jurors on the trial of Samuel Dyer.....	30 00 00
Samuel Ward, for adjusting the balances of Col. Thos. Greene's regiment, on account of depreciation of their wages.....	600 00 00
Peter Turner, for the same service .....	180 00 00
James Tew, for maintaining divers state prisoners in Newport, in 1776.....	19 10 00
Gideon Comstock, justice of the supreme court of judicature, for services and expenses.....	210 00 00
Paul Mumford, justice of the supreme court, for the same.....	1,736 10 00
Charles Keene, for bills of rakes and scythes .....	177 00 00
Robert Taylor, for a horse and cart taken from him for the public use .....	9 12 00
Pay abstract of a sergeant's guard, commanded by Wing Spooner, at East Greenwich.....	96 03 02
Shearjashub Bourne, justice of the superior court, for services and expenses .....	883 10 00
Joseph Noyes, Jr., for carrying prisoners to Westerly, Little Rest and Greenwich .....	79 05 06
Thomas Rumreill, for services in settling the depreciation of wages of this state's Continental battalions ; to be paid in Continental bills.....	300 00 00
John Handy, for his services as auditor of accounts, to be paid in Conti- nental bills.....	210 00 00
Benjamin Bourne, for services as clerk of the lower house.....	382 10 00
William Davis, for attendance upon the General Assembly.....	192 00 00
Joseph Brown, " " " "	120 00 00
Samuel Simpson, " " " "	240 00 00
William Mumford, " " " "	240 00 00

God save the United States of America.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress,  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

Philadelphia, 15th June, 1780.

Sir :—Congress repeat their applications to your state. They would willingly hope that their former representations have not been ineffectual, and that the states are pursuing measures to enable our armies to take the field with a force superior to that of the enemy, and with such ample supplies of provision as will not only maintain them in plenty, but enable the commander-in-chief, if necessary, on any extraordinary occasion to avail himself of the aid of the militia. But upon these hopes Congress dare not rely ; every moment presses. It is necessary they should have the most explicit assurances not only that their requisitions will be complied with, but that such compliance will be as immediate as the public wants are urgent.

The letters from our committee at headquarters to you, state those wants without exaggeration. They state some facts, and leave to your judgments to supply the others, which it would have been improper to commit to paper. The object of this address is only to enforce their requests, and to entreat you not to repose your safety upon the spirit and vigilance of others, while any means in your own power are left untried. The present occasion calls for the united force of America. It gives us great consolation, that notwithstanding the difficulties in which we are involved, the resources of the states if speedily applied, are sufficient to relieve us from them.

Every state in the Union is bound by the strongest obligations to afford us their aid ; and we trust that at this critical emergency, no present ease or convenience of individuals will be put in competition with the lasting happiness of millions. That the rulers of states will not hesitate to exert their utmost authority ; and that the people have too much understanding to refuse a temporary submission to such vigorous exertions as are necessary to secure them from continued oppression and established tyranny.

A common council involves the power of direction. Let not our measures be check-ed or controlled by the negligence or partial views and interests of separate communities, while they profess to be members of one body ; too long have the dearest interests of America been sacrificed to present ease. Too many of us have slept in false security. Let us awake before the season for successful exertion is passed. Judge you, whether the loss of Charlestown and the situation of your grand army, do not call for every spirited effort.

The objects which claim your immediate attention, are already pointed out by the requisitions of Congress, and their committee, at headquarters. Let them be complied with. Enable us to co-operate vigorously with the fleets and armics of our ally, and we may reasonably hope, through the blessing of Divine Providence, for a speedy and happy termination of a controversy which is to give freedom and independence to millions.

By order of Congress,  
SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

To Governor Greene.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to the Committee of Congress.*

Warwick, Rhode Island, June 6, 1780.

Gentlemen:—I received Your Honors' favor of the 25th ult., and shall lay them before the General Assembly, who are to convene on Monday next.

The exhausted state of the treasury, the smallness and bad supply of our army, and the loss of public credit as described in yours, are circumstances truly alarming. These, with other potent considerations, manifest the necessity of the earliest and fullest exertions of the United States.

I doubt not this state will do every thing in their power to recover us from such disagreeable circumstances.

I am, &c.,  
W. GREENE.

To the Honorable Committee of Congress.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress, to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

Philadelphia, June 21, 1780.

Sir:—Congress have at different periods recommended measures which they deemed essentially necessary for the public good.

They now request of those states which have not made returns to Congress of their transactions in that respect, the most expeditious information of the measures they have taken, in consequence of the several resolutions, a list of which is annexed to the enclosed act of the 17th instant.

With very great respect,

I have the honor to be, with the highest regard,  
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress, to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

Philadelphia, June 22, 1780.

Sir:—Your Excellency will herewith receive an act of Congress of the 21st instant, which will no doubt be duly attended to.

Those parts of the act in particular, that relate to giving information to Congress and their committee, at headquarters, it is most earnestly requested may be attended to with the utmost expedition and punctuality.

The time is come when we may expect the arrival of the forces of our ally; and the plan of operation ought to be completely formed and ready to be communicated on their arrival, which cannot be done for want of proper and certain information of the number of forces, quantity of supplies, &c., which the states will furnish.

Under these circumstances, you will easily perceive that Congress and the command-

er-in-chief are placed in a most painful situation ; and that the interest, honor and safety of these states are too much affected to admit of the least delay or neglect of any and every exertion, which the present situation of our affairs demand.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

June 23.—Since writing the foregoing, I have received a letter from His Excellency General Washington, an extract of which is enclosed, together with an act of Congress of this day, by which you will be further informed of the pressing necessity of immediately forwarding the supplies of men and provision with the utmost expedition ; and the repeated request of Congress to transmit to them and their committee at headquarters, the proceedings of the state over which you have the honor to preside, in such manner that the commander-in-chief may rely, and be enabled to regulate his future operations thereon.

I have the honor to be, &c.,  
SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to the Committee of Congress for Co-operation.*

Providence, June 25, 1780.

Gentlemen :—I have been honored with your dispatches to the 22d instant, inclusive.

The General Assembly have ordered six hundred and ten men to complete the state's quota ; to effect which, they have proportioned them to the several towns to be raised and rendezvous at Providence, by the 1st day of July. Every exertion of government will be made to complete this number, as well as to furnish the required supplies to the army. You may be assured, gentlemen, this state will make every exertion in their power to answer the expectations of the public.

I am, &c., &c.,  
W. GREENE.

To the Committee of Congress for Co-operation.

*Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

Headquarters, Ramapough, 30th June, 1780.

Sir :—As the levies required of the states for filling their battalions, have not yet joined the army, or the French fleet arrived, I beg leave to inform Your Excellency that it will be unnecessary for the militia, which the Honorable the Committee of Congress were pleased to call for on a late occasion, to be at the place appointed for their rendezvous, before the 25th of next month. By this time, I would willingly hope that things will be in such a train, as to enable us to commence our operations, and to make their aid essential. The present crisis is by far the most important and delicate that this country has ever experienced ; and it pains me in the extreme that we are so backward in all our measures. I hope a moment will not be lost in pushing on the levies to fill the battalions. Our allies would be chagrined, were they to arrive to-day, to find that we have but a handful of men in the field ; and would doubt, more than probable, whether we had any serious intentions to prosecute measures with vigor. If we do not avail ourselves of their succor by the most decisive and energetic steps on

our part, the aid they so generously bring, may prove our ruin; and at best it will be in such case, among the most unfortunate events, next to that of our absolute ruin that could have befallen us.

I think it my duty, as often as I have the honor of addressing the states, to forewarn them, that the completion of their battalions to their full establishment of five hundred and four, rank and file, is a measure of indispensable necessity to the intended co-operation; and that without it, we cannot even attempt any thing decisive.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect, sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. As my request to delay the assembling of the militia at the place appointed for their rendezvous proceeds principally from the French fleet's not being arrived, I beg leave to observe, if this event should have taken place when this reaches your hands, my request is not to have an operation; but in such case it is my desire that the assembling of the militia should be hastened as much as possible.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to the Committee of Congress for Co-operation.*

State of Rhode Island, &c., July 8th, 1780.

Gentlemen:—Agreeably to your request for information, the General Assembly, in compliance with the resolution of Congress of the 20th of May, and your requisition, passed an act for raising the number of men necessary to complete their Continental battalions to their full complement of men, and apportioned them to the several towns, who were to furnish them by the 1st of July, to which time the Assembly adjourned; when finding by the returns they were yet deficient, an act has passed, of which the enclosed is a copy, and which it is expected will prove effectual.

The Assembly have adopted the resolution of Congress of 25th of February last, respecting supplies; appointed a commissary of purchases, and furnished him with moneys for that service.

Such provision has been made with respect to the article of forage, that the quantity required by said resolve, will be ready when called for; a number of cattle, horses and grain have been contracted for, but the commissary, who is absent on that business, not having made a return, it cannot now be ascertained to what amount.

From the severity of the drought throughout this state, it will be difficult, if not impossible to supply the full quantity of beef so early as it may be wanted; but every exertion will be made to promote it, and whatever else is incumbent on this state to supply. A return of what is purchased, shall be forwarded to Congress, as soon as possible.

I am, with much respect, gentlemen,

Your very humble servant,

W. GREENE.

To the Committee of Congress for Co-operation.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to the President of the Continental Congress.*

State of Rhode Island, &c., July 8th, 1780.

Sir:—Your letter of the 17th of June, enclosing a resolution of Congress, of the same date, requesting from this state returns of the transactions upon several resolutions of Congress annexed, hath been received.

In answer thereto, I have to inform Your Excellency, that, to comply as nearly as possible with the resolution of March 9th, 1779 (great difficulties attending the filling our Continental battalions), an act was passed for raising two regiments of infantry and one of artillery; that in June following, the regiments of infantry being incomplete, the two were reduced to one, and a light corps ordered to be raised; of which measures, Congress were informed, and reasons given therefor, and which they were pleased to approve.

This state have assessed and collected all taxes recommended by Congress in their resolutions of May 21st, and October 6th and 7th. But such have been the exigencies for money, to carry the public measures into execution, that the resolution of the 9th of October hath not been fully complied with.

Congress will please to consider that the several departments in this state have of late been short of moneys necessary for their expenditures; and that of what we are deficient in paying in our taxes, which is \$895,671 2-3, \$199,666 2-3 have been advanced for the quartermaster general's department only. At the same time, when it was found necessary to stop the moneys collected from being paid into the Continental treasury, the state ordered a tax in addition to, and equal with, the Continental tax, in order to re-place the moneys so stopped, and which is now collecting. But expenses are so very heavy upon this state, for raising their quota of troops, advancing for the necessities of those already in service, whose pay is much in arrear; supplying the several departments, in making provision for the arrival of the fleet and army of His Most Christian Majesty, and a variety of other matters, which Congress will conceive necessary at this period; that we fear, unless the departments of the quartermaster, &c., are otherwise supplied, we shall be obliged to make use of the moneys as fast as collected.

In order, if possible, to prevent it, this state did in June last, emit £20,000, funded on real estate, redeemable in six months with silver and gold only.

The resolution of March 18th has been under consideration, and a bill drafted, in consequence; but the completion thereof, is postponed a few days, in order the better to ascertain the funds for its redemption. As soon as the same shall be finished, a copy will be transmitted to Congress.

The Assembly, in compliance with the resolution of the 20th of May, passed an act at the June session for raising a number men, agreeably to the requisition of the committee of co-operation, and apportion the same to the several towns, who were to furnish their quotas by the 1st day of July, to which time the Assembly adjourned, when finding by the returns they are yet deficient, an act has passed, a copy of which is enclosed, and which we doubt not will prove effectual.

The Assembly have adopted the resolution of the 25th of February, respecting supplies; appointed a commissary of purchases, and furnished him with moneys for that service. Provision has been made with respect to the article of forage; that it will be ready as soon as called for; a number of cattle, horses, &c., have been contracted for, but the commissary, who is absent on the business, not having made a return, it cannot be ascertained to what amount.

From the severity of the drought throughout this state, it will be difficult, if not im-

possible, to supply the full quantity of beef so early as it may be wanted; but every exertion will be made to procure it, and whatever else is incumbent on this state to supply; and a return of what is purchased, shall be forwarded to Congress as soon as possible.

With great respect, I am—

Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

WILLIAM GREENE,

To His Excellency the President of Congress.

*General Washington to the President of the Continental Congress.*

Headquarters, Bergen county, }  
10th July, 1780. }

Sir:—I have, with great pleasure, seen the very laudable association of the merchants of Philadelphia, for procuring a quantity of provisions and rum for the army. I am well persuaded that the same spirit exists in those of the other considerable trading towns, who perhaps only want being made acquainted with the distresses of the army, in articles almost as essential as those of provision, to produce similar associations for the purposes of providing such matters as may be recommended to them.

We are so scantily supplied with marques and tents, and have so little prospect of procuring a sufficient number by the common means that some gentlemen have suggested the propriety and expediency of an address to the merchants from New London to Portsmouth, inclusive, requesting their assistance at this critical time, and giving them the same assurances of reimbursement, which have been given to the merchants of Philadelphia.

By the estimates of the quartermaster general, a sum not exceeding £40,000, lawful, money, would make a sufficient provision of marques, tents, knapsacks and some other articles in that way; and should the mode I have hinted, be thought advisable he would furnish the proportions which each town should, in his opinion, be requested to provide. Some private letters have, I believe, been written to the principal trading gentlemen to eastward on this subject, which may perhaps produce an offer on their parts; but I am so exceedingly anxious on account of the backward state of our preparations of every kind, that I cannot help recommending an application to them, notwithstanding, by Congress, collectively, or through their own delegates, as may be judged most proper.

I observe that by the present regulations of the Bank of Philadelphia, the funds are to be applied solely to the purchases of rum and provision. But if an application of part of them could be diverted to the purchase of tents (the materials for making which, I am told are plenty in Philadelphia), it would add to our stock in a very little time. The committee of co-operation have already recommended this deviation, and I beg leave to express my concurrence with them.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency the President of Congress.

[JULY,

*Estimate of Marquees, Tents, Knapsacks, &c., wanting for the Army, with their cost in hard money.*

	Lawful money. £ s.		Lawful money. £ s.
161 marquees .....	a30 ... 4,830 00	33,738 knapsacks .....	6 ... 10,121 08
695 horseman's tents 160 ...	5,560 00	4,000 bags for forage ..	6 ... 1,200 00
641 wall tents .....	75 ... 2,403 15	10,000 sand bags .....	6 ... 3,000 00
3 641 common tents... 60 ...	10,923 00	100 canvass valises ..	18 ..... 90 00
			<hr/> £38,128 08
			<hr/> \$127,098 60
			72

Camp equipage to be required of the different eastern states, in the following proportions:

From what state or district.	Marquees.	Horseman's tents.	Wall tents.	Common tents.	Knapsacks.	Forge bags.	Sand bags.	Canvass valises.	Supposed cost in hard money.	£ s.
Massachusetts,	Boston and dependencies ..	81 348	321	1,841	16,869	2,000	5,000	100	19,191	9
	Salem and Marblehead ...	27 116	107	600	5,623	666	1,666	...	6,325	15
	Newbury .....	13 58	53	300	2,812	333	833	...	3,146	3
Rhode Island .....	9 39	36	200	1,874	222	556	...	2,112	12	
Connecticut.....	22 95	88	500	4,686	557	1,389	...	5,239	12	
New Hampshire and Portsmouth	9 39	36	200	1,874	222	556	...	2,112	12	
Total .....	161 695 641	3,640	33,738	4,000	10,000	100	38,128	08		

*General Washington to the Committee of Congress for Co-operation.*

Headquarters, 13th July, 1780.

Gentlemen:—We have received intelligence, through different channels from New York, that the Gaudaloupe had arrived there on Sunday morning, and brought an account that she had fallen in with a large French fleet, consisting of several sail of the line, and a number of transports, between the Capes of Virginia and Delaware. This intelligence has every appearance of authenticity; and, if true, the arrival of the fleet on the coast may instantly be looked for. This indeed must be the case, at any rate, from the time they are said to have sailed.

It cannot be too much lamented that our preparations are still so greatly behind-hand. Not a thousand men that I have heard of, have yet joined the army; and in all probability the period for commencing our operations is at hand. I am happy to learn that a spirit of animation has diffused itself throughout the states, from which we may expect the happiest consequences.

But the exigency is so pressing, that we ought to multiply our efforts to give new activity and dispatch to our measures; levying and forwarding the men; providing the supplies of every sort required; forage and transportation demand particular attention.

After what had been preconcerted with the Honorable the Congress; after two months' previous notice of the intended succor, if our allies find us unprepared, and are obliged to wait several weeks in a state of inaction, it is easy to conceive how unfavorable the impressions it will make of our conduct. Besides this, the season is exceedingly advanced; a decisive enterprize, if our means are equal to it, will not permit us to lose a moment of the time left for military operations, which if improved with all the vigor in our power, is less than were to be wished for an undertaking of so arduous and important a nature. So much is at stake, so much to be hoped, so much to be lost, that we shall be inexcusable if we do not employ all our zeal, and all our exertion.

With the highest respect and esteem,

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,, &c.,

G. WASHINGTON.

To the Committee for Co-operation.

*The Committee of Congress for Co-operation to the Governor  
of Rhode Island.*

In Committee of Congress,

Preakness, state of New Jersey, July 13, 1780. }

Sir:—We do ourselves the honor to enclose Your Excellency copy of a letter of this date, from the commander-in-chief.

You, sir, are so fully impressed with the necessity of improving every moment to promote the great object of the present campaign, it will be needless to adduce any arguments in support of the sentiments contained in the general's letter. Permit us only to observe, that in proportion as any state is deficient in the number of men and quantum of supplies for the army, our prospect of success will be diminished; and should unhappily your state rely that the exertions of other states will be competent to the business, and the same opinion entertained by others, it is evident that disgrace and ruin must be the portion of this country.

Persuaded that your feelings will revolt at the mere idea, we rely with confidence that not a moment's time will be lost in fulfilling the engagements of your state, and in a perfect compliance with the requisitions of this committee, as specified in former applications for any extra supplies or services.

Your Excellency will not conclude us too importunate in the repeated reiterations on this important subject; as we are convinced that the occasion will justify us in this address.

We have the honor to be, with great respect and esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servants,

PH. SCHUYLER,

NATH'L PEABODY.

To His Excellency William Greene, Esq.

*Quartermaster General Nathaniel Greene to the Governor of  
Rhode Island.*

Camp Precanness, July 15th, 1780.

Sir:—The commander-in-chief has given me directions to make the necessary provision in the quartermaster's department for a co-operation with the French forces which are now at Newport, for the reduction of New York.

I am to request therefore, that Your Excellency will give orders for such sums of money on the treasury of the state in favor of Mr. Bowen, deputy quartermaster gen-

[JULY,

eral, from time to time as the service may require ; without this, it will be *impossible* to go on with the business. Mr. Bowen has had orders to collect the flat-bottomed boats in the state ; which he could not effect for want of money. He has instructions now to forward them to Connecticut river, which I fear cannot be done, unless the state can supply money for the purpose. I shall be exceedingly obliged by the friendly offices of the state in promoting at this critical time, the necessary preparations in the quartermaster general's department, for carrying into execution the general's plan of operations.

In military operations, one thing depends so much upon another ; and the success of the whole upon the provision of each part, that nothing is more common than for great events to depend upon little things. The *ef're*, what may appear a trifling consideration, often involves important consequences.

I beg my compliments to your family.

I have the honor to be—

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

NATH. GREENE, Quartermaster General.

To His Excellency Governor Greene. \*

*The Governor of Rhode Island to Governor Trumbull, of Connecticut.*

Newport, July 22d, 1780.

Sir :—Yours of the 18th instant, is now before me, and agreeably to your request, I have the pleasure to inform you that the armament now in this harbor consists of seven ships of the line, from eighty-four to sixty-four guns, one forty gun hospital ship, formerly sixty-four, and which is now taking on board her full complement of guns ; three frigates, two bomb-ketches, about thirty transports, five thousand land forces, and one thousand marines, exclusive of the full complement of seamen for the men-of-war and transports ; and the general informs me that he is only the vanguard of a much greater force that may be hourly expected.

A British fleet was yesterday discovered standing in for this harbor ; about sixteen sail were counted ; they are now lying off the harbor, some at anchor, and others under sail.

I received a letter from the Honorable Jabez Bowen, Esq., of Providence, of the 17th, who informs me that some British officers who were prisoners in this state, and were some time since exchanged, engaged to pay their own expenses for board, &c. ; and as the families where they boarded, wanted many necessaries of clothing, &c., and the officers not being in cash to discharge their accounts, he gave verbal permission for the officer who went in the flag to invest the amount of their accounts in dry goods and such necessaries as said families were in want of ; invoices of which goods, I now enclose you.

This flag, on her return to Providence, was boarded by an armed boat belonging to your state, and the goods taken out and are still detained from the proper owners ; I must therefore request Your Excellency to demand the goods so taken away, and to use your utmost influence that they may be delivered to the persons in this state for whom they were intended ; especially as they were designed to pay the board of those very officers who went in exchange for Captains Smedley and Scovell, of your state. Your compliance with this request, will much oblige, sir,

Your most obedient and very humble servant,

WM. GREENE.

To Governor Trumbull.

*The Committee of Congress for Co-operation to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

In Committee of Congress, }  
Preakness, 23d July, 1780. }

Sir:—Your Excellency's letter of the 6th and 25th of June, and 8th instant, have been received.

We have no doubt of your most strenuous endeavors for furnishing the supplies requested of the state; but Your Excellency has not advised us whether the legislature has taken measures to furnish the militia required.

We entreat you for information on this head, with all dispatch; as the season for operation is gliding fast away, and the general wishes to ascertain with precision, the force he shall be able to draw into the field. It is unnecessary to reiterate the importance of having the supplies allotted to each state punctually delivered; and although difficulties may arise in procuring some of the articles, yet we hope they will be obtained by your attention, and the exertion of the officers employed in the purchase.

We have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servants,

PH. SCHUYLER,  
J. W. MATHEWS,  
NATH'L PEABODY.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to Joseph Reed, Governor of Pennsylvania.*

Newport, July 23, 1780.

Sir:—You will observe by the enclosed, vote, that I am requested by the General Assembly to apply to Your Excellency in favor of one M'Intosh Alexander, belonging to this state, and who has a family here. He was captured in a brig from London, bound for New York, by the Fair American, Stephen Decatur, commander; and is now a prisoner in Philadelphia. I am therefore to request that you will use your utmost influence and assistance in effecting the liberation of the said M'Intosh Alexander from his captivity, in order that he may return to his friends connections in this state.

I have the honor to be Your Excellency's obedient servant,

W. GREENE.

To His Excellency Joseph Reed, Governor of Pennsylvania.

*General W. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, July 25, 1780. }  
4 o'clock, P. M. }

Sir:—Intelligence is this moment received by the way of Long Island, that Sir Henry Clinton intends to make an attempt on Rhode Island with a large body of troops—it is said ten thousand men.

His Excellency Count de Rochambeau requests that he may be immediately reinforced with two thousand militia. I request that you would order fifteen hundred of that number, properly officered, armed and accoutred, to rendezvous without delay, at Tiverton. General Rochambeau says that in six or seven days, he shall be perfectly

secure without them, and they may return home. If your militia for reinforcing the army, are detached, they may be ordered on this duty; but I pray you that not a moment may be lost. If the enemy mean to make an attempt, it will be soon. The account says the enemy had embarked.

I would also request that your purchasing commissary may be directed to see that ample supplies of provisions are furnished to the issuing commissaries without delay.

I also beg leave to submit to Your Excellency the holding the whole militia of the state in readiness to turn out, should the alarm be given.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

P. S. The men must bring six days' provision with them. A person is sent to establish signals from Watch Point to this place.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to General Heath.*

Providence, July 27th, 1780. }  
9 o'clock, P. M. }

Sir:—You are sensible that I have issued orders to assemble the whole of the militia at different posts to wait my further orders.

I will be obliged to Your Honor for particulars. Information of the intelligence you have of the force of the enemy designed for the expedition to Rhode Island; of the time when you think they will sail; of the succors you expect from Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut; and of such other matters as you think necessary to throw light upon the subject.

I request these communications, because they will be of service to us in exerting the force of the state, as they will be convincing of the necessity of the demand, and of the probability of the aid's being effectual. The particulars will be confined to the members of the council.

The unprepared state of the people, the shortness of the notice, the want of arms and accoutrements, the great scarcity of provisions, and the extraordinary backwardness of the business of the farmers will render it an affair of the greatest difficulty to arm, equip and send forward more than half of our effective men, which I hope will amount to about three thousand. I beg the favor of an immediate answer to this letter.

I am, with great esteem, sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

W. GREENE.

General Heath.

*Gen. W. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, July 28th, 1780.

Sir:—I have been honored with yours, of yesterday. The intelligence received here of the motions and probable intentions of Sir Henry Clinton, was from Col. Hamilton, at headquarters; Major General Howe, General Parsons, Major Talmadge, some gentlemen at Long Island, and others from thence.

They nearly all agree that Admiral Greaves had taken one thousand seamen from the city of New York, and proceeded off this harbor; that General Clinton was moving eight or ten thousand men, who were embarking at White House, on Long Island, and

at Westchester; and that from every appearance and intimation, the fleet and army of our generous ally was their object.

On receiving this intelligence, which has been many times repeated, General Rochambeau, who saw a superior fleet to that of Monsieur de Ternay, at the mouth of this harbor, and almost every consideration to induce him to apprehend Gen. Clinton's design was against him, made an immediate and formal demand of aid from the militia, mentioning the number, absolutely necessary for his support, and which he requested by a certain time. On this, I formed my first requisition for fifteen hundred men from your state, and the brigade of the county of Bristol, in Massachusetts. Upon further intelligence, General Rochambeau demanded a call of your whole militia; and also further aid from Massachusetts and Connecticut.

The reported manœuvres of the enemy, the ease and expedition with which they might be brought here, if the winds were favorable, and the high importance of preserving the fleet and army of our ally, considered, not only policy but justice dictated that every aid should be immediately afforded, and not the least backwardness discovered; I therefore made my second requisition.

When the enemy will sail, or whether at all, Your Excellency can as well determine as I can; but, in order to have the earliest intelligence of their approach, I sent one of my own family to establish signals from Watch Hill, to this place, which is done. The enemy may appear within this hour, or they may not appear at all. Early and spirited measures may prevent them.

It gave me pain when I called for the militia. I was fully impressed with a sense of their burdens and embarrassments, and the excessive busy season, which is rendered more so, by the present drought; and in order to relieve the militia as much as possible, I did in the first instance, call for the three months' militia of the Massachusetts (although destined to another quarter), to march immediately here.

The last evening I was honored with dispatches from the council at Boston, containing a letter and a resolve; one, dated the 26th inst., at 12 o'clock, at night; the other, the 27th, at one o'clock, in the morning. The council direct their militia to march immediately to Tiverton. Whether the militia will assemble agreeably to the request of Gen. Rochambeau, and by the time he expects them, or not; or whether they will be wanted or not, I cannot say. In consequence of his demand, I have done that which I apprehended to be my duty.

I give Your Excellency, agreeably to your request, this minute detail, which I do with much pleasure. I am constrained to add that the contents of your last letter have given me some uneasiness.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,  
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. W. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, July 29, 1780.

Sir:—I have just received letters from the president of the council at Boston, intimating that in consequence of a letter from General Count de Rochambeau, they had ordered three more of their regiments of militia to march this way, for the support of the forces of our ally.

I have this moment received a letter from His Excellency Governor Trumbull, of the 27th instant. He informs me that he has given orders to the brigadiers of the four

eastern brigades to put one half of their respective brigades into actual readiness to march on the shortest notice, to any place that may be attacked; and that those in the town of Preston and the north part of Stonington, and those of the towns of Pomfret, Woodstock, Killingly, Voluntown, Plainfield and Canterbury, that are detached, march immediately with six days' provisions; Capt. Tyler's Company of Artillery, and Capt. Backus's Independents to rendezvous at Greenwich, in the state of Rhode Island.

His Excellency then adds, "The following intelligence I have in a letter from Col. Wells, dated at Greenwich, the 25th instant: "The enemy are all gone, except Delany's, from East and Westchester, and a very great embarkation taking place: commonly believed they are going to the eastward. An officer of my regiment, just arrived from below, informs that the embarkation is almost universal from New York, Long Island and Frog's Point; that General Clinton's baggage is all on ship-board. If it was not for the transports which have come through Hell Gate, I should think the West Indies was their object; but time must determine their movements."

Whatever further intelligence may come to hand, Your Excellency may depend on the earliest communication of it.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. W. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, July 30th, 1780.

Sir:—His Excellency General Count de Rochambeau has this moment expressed his pleasure, that all the militia marching to his support, except those detached for three months, return immediately to their respective homes, to attend to their domestic affairs, which at this time peculiarly demand their attention.

The general expresses the highest pleasure and satisfaction of the spirit and zeal discovered by the authority of the states, and by the militia, for his support; and rest assured that in case he should hereafter stand in need of aid, it will be readily and seasonably afforded.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*General Varnum to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Bristol, 2d August, 1780, }  
7 o'clock P. M. }

Sir:—I am this moment returned from Tiverton. I have received from you this day eight hundred and twenty flints, but no cartridges. I hope some are on the way. General Heath depends much on us in furnishing ammunition. Most of the cartridges to be made, ought to be of eighteen and nineteen balls to the pound. No possible delay should take place in making and forwarding them. Provisions are greatly wanting. I enclose you a list of ammunition, &c., wanting this night, for cannon. I have seen rice and beef at Tiverton. Nothing but mutton and beef, purchased in small quantities.

I have just heard that the British were lately off New London; but the account is not official. Cannon are now firing to the southward of us. 'Tis probable we shall move upon the island very early in the morning. Your Excellency will pardon me for the

manner of my writing. I have much to do. More men here than at Tiverton. We want all the spare horses from Providence.

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

J. M. VARNUM.

N. B. Part of the flints above mentioned, came from S. Kingstown.

To Governor Greene.

*Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Peckskill, {  
3d August, 1780. }

Sir:—I have been honored with Your Excellency's letter of the 24th ultimo; and for the reasons you mention, the postponing the march of the militia was proper; especially where we take into view the appearances there were of the enemy's making an expedition with a great part of their land force against our allies. These however, are now at an end, by their returning to New York. But as the enemy's fleet still remains off Rhode Island, it may perhaps be thought eligible for them not to move.

I have therefore written to General Heath on the subject, as well as about Colonel Greene's regiment and the levies, and requested him to consult the Count, and to communicate the result with respect to the militia, to Your Excellency, by which you will be pleased to regulate yourself as to their coming or remaining longer. If the latter should be the result of their communication, I am then to entreat that they may be held in such a state of readiness, as to be able to proceed on the shortest notice after a requisition by me, or when the Count is about to move with his troops; or shall signify that he does not consider their further detention necessary.

I have the honor to enclose Your Excellency a copy of a proclamation, offering pardon to the deserters from your two regiments in the Continental service, &c. This I should have transmitted sooner, but have been prevented by a variety of pressing business; and by our being a good deal in a moving state. Your Excellency, if you think proper, will communicate it to the printer for publication.

I have the honor to be—

Your Excellency's obedient and humble servant,  
GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Varnum to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Bristol, 3d August, 1780.

Sir:—Failing so much in my repeated applications for provision, &c., induces me to send General Stanton and Mr. Helme to give a general description of our situation, and solicit all the assistance Your Excellency, with the Council, can possibly give us.

Enclosed, you have a return of the troops here, as far as we have collected them; about two hundred more have just arrived from Col. Brown's battalion. I have not a particular return from Col. Church's battalion, of Tiverton and Little Compton; but there are nearly three hundred of them.

We have nothing of consequence upon the post. Nearly half of the men are unarmed. If a measure could be adopted for keeping no more men in the field than could be absolutely necessary and useful in action, is a matter of importance and of too much delicacy for me to give an opinion about.

The supplies to be obtained here, are perfectly inadequate to the support of so many people as are upon the ground.

I have the honor of being—

Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

J. M. VARNUM.

To Governor Greene.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Howland's Ferry, August 3d, 1780.

Sir:—I was yesterday honored with yours of the 1st instant. I am exceedingly sorry to hear that there is a probability of a shortness of provision. On my first application for the militia, I requested provisions from the Council at Boston, and from Govr Trumbull, as well as of Your Excellency.

I hope for some relief from them; but from local circumstances, my principal dependence has been on your state; and I cannot but yet hope that a supply of fresh meat, rum and salt, at least, will be obtained; and I most earnestly request that your purchasing commissary may exert his endeavors in procuring provisions, and that he may be vested with such powers as the present emergency requires.

A few minutes since, I received a letter from Col. Greene, in which he observes: "If very great exertions are not immediately made, the troops must suffer for want of provisions." I expect relief from Massachusetts, but the distance will unavoidably require time.

I thank Your Excellency for the information enclosed in your last; but Thurber must have been much mistaken as to the numbers of the enemy.

About 10 o'clock, the last night, I received a letter from Gen. Washington, dated the 31st ult., at the Highlands, on the east side of Hudson river. His Excellency informs me that General Clinton had sailed eastward, in the Sound; and that he intended to march as rapidly as possible towards King's Bridge; this possibly may induce General Clinton to change his plan; if he does not, we may very soon expect him.

We are in great want of entrenching tools. I thought there were a large number in the hands of the deputy quartermaster general, at Providence; but I am disappointed. It will be impossible to push the work, with that expedition that may be necessary.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

P. S. General Varnum this moment writes me that he is much perplexed for want of provisions. I beg some effectual method may be immediately adopted for relief.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Howland's Ferry, August 4, 1780.

Sir:—I am just honored with yours of yesterday. The spirit of the militia discovered at this time, might afford the greatest pleasure to every friend to America, as it has done to our generous auxiliaries, who view it as the best evidence of our affection, and attachment to them. It was with pain, sir, that I called out the militia at this busy season; it is with pain that I see them detained a day; but necessity compels.

When I wrote Your Excellency for the militia of your state, I called for those of the county of Bristol, in Massachusetts, and six other regiments, and all their three months'

men who had not marched. I have not yet been able to get returns of the number of militia that have been turned out, but soon expect them.

Your Excellency is sensible that I must in present circumstances be much governed by His Excellency Count Rochambeau, as to the aid he thinks necessary. I shall dine with him to-morrow, at Newport, and will lay your letter before him, and represent all the circumstances. I shall be happy if a discharge of a part of the militia should be thought advisable. The militia of Connecticut have rendezvoused at and near New London, where it is not impossible the enemy may make an attempt; but in case the fleet pass that place, the militia will march immediately this way.

Governor Trumbull has ordered two hundred barrels of best rye flour to be forwarded to Mr. Commissary Southwick. A day or two will determine whether the enemy mean to come or not.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To Governor Greene.

### *Gen. Varnum to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Bristol, 4th August, 1780.

Sir:—I am ordered by His Excellency the Count de Rochambeau to take command upon the militia of the island of a detachment of two thousand troops. General Lippitt is to command at Butts' Hill; he will therefore be ————— immediately. As soon as the whole arrangements are made up, I shall inform you. It will be out of my power to pay that attention to supplying the men, which has hitherto engrossed much of my attention. General Miller will give me every assistance in his power.

There are a number of men here from the county of Providence, who call themselves light horse, but have neither guns, pistols, swords or spurs. They consume forage without utility. I wish your orders what to do with them.

No supplies yet of rum, bread or any thing else in the commissary department. If the troops desert through necessity, I can't be chargeable with the consequences. I know Your Excellency and the Council must be very much troubled. The mode for collecting from the towns, requires too much time in the execution. The detachment for my more immediate command will be supplied by the Count, if necessary.

I am Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

J. M. VARNUM.

To Governor Greene.

### *Jabez Bowen and John Brown to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Bristol, 4th August, 1780.

Sir:—Agreeably to the request of the council of war, we have this day waited on Gen. Heath, and have urged the necessity of dismissing one half of our militia. He promises to communicate the matter to Count Rochambeau, and no doubt but he shall be able to comply with your desires to-morrow or next day, at furthest.

The militia from the Massachusetts have turned out in large numbers. The general has received no late advice from the westward.

In haste, we are Your Excellency's most humble servants,

JABEZ BOWEN,  
JOHN BROWN.

To Governor Greene.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to the Council of War.*

Providence, 5th August, 1780.

Gentlemen :—I received this, with General Heath's letter, about half past one o'clock, this morning ; and at first view was something at a loss whether to proceed to Newport or not, as the Council advised upon my receiving a letter from Genoral Heath, not to proceed there before the Council convened.

But considering the general is to dine to-day with the French general, I thought it my duty to proceed immediately to Newport, so as to be there timely to see them together ; that I doubt not you will excuse me for going forward prior to my advising with you, considering the contents of the general's letter, notwithstanding your advice was to the contrary. You may depend upon my giving you the earliest intelligence in my power respecting the business I am going upon.

I am, gentlemen, with respect and esteem, yours, &c.,  
W. GREENE.

To the Honorable the Council of War, present.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Howland's Ferry, August 7th, 1780.

Sir :—The letter which Your Excellency so obligingly forwarded this morning per the light horseman, was from Gen. Washington, and announcing that the enemy who were expected to pay us a visit, are returned to New York.

I apprehend that in consequence of this letter, the whole of the militia, except those detached for three months, may return home ; but it is necessary to consult General Rochambeau, before I do it. I have but one of my aids de camp for that purpose, and the moment he returns, you shall hear further from me. Your regiment of three months' run, should be completed, I think, without a moment's delay.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,  
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
W. HEATH.

To Governor Greene.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress,  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Philadelphia, August 16, 1780.

Sir :—Your letters of the 22d and 25th of last month, to the delegates of your state, have been received and laid before Congress ; and in answer thereto, I am to acquaint you, that Congress have a proper sense of the exertions of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in the common cause.

That any disbursements which may be made by that state for the use of the United States beyond its quota, shall be reimbursed as soon as circumstances will admit ; that Congress depend on the several states for the necessary supplies of money for carrying on the war ; that the bills of credit to be emitted in pursuance of the resolution of the 10th of March last, will yield a supply as soon as the several quotas of the Continental bills of credit are collected to be destroyed ; that the quota of the aforesaid bills for your

state shall be transmitted as soon as possible, after a copy of the act complying with the resolution is received. If taxes were laid, payable in new bills or specie, it would have a good tendency to introduce the said bills into circulation, in full credit.

By order of Congress,  
SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

Headquarters, near the Liberty Pole, {  
in Bergen county, 27th August, 1780. }

Sir:—The honorable the committee of co-operation having returned to Congress, I am under the disagreeable necessity of informing Your Excellency that the army is again reduced to an extremity of distress for want of provision. The greater part of it has been without meat from the 21st to the 26th. To endeavor to obtain some relief, I moved down to this place, with a view of stripping the lower parts of the county of its cattle, which after a most rigorous exaction, is found to afford between two and three days' supply, only; and those consisting of milk cows and calves, of one two years old. When this scanty pittance is consumed, I know not what will be our next resource, as the commissary can give me no certain information of more than one hundred and twenty head of cattle, expected from Pennsylvania; and about one hundred and fifty from Massachusetts. I mean in time to supply our immediate wants.

Military coercion is no longer of any avail, as nothing further can possibly be collected from the country in which we are obliged to take a position, without depriving the inhabitants of the last morsel. This mode of subsisting, supposing the desired end could be answered by it, besides being in the highest distressing to individuals, is attended with ruin to the morals and discipline of the army. During the few days which we have been obliged to send out small parties to procure provisions for themselves the most enormous excesses have been committed.

It has been no inconsiderable support of our cause, to have had it in our power to contrast the conduct of our army with that of the enemy, and to convince the inhabitants that while their rights are wantonly violated by the British troops, by ours they were respected. This distinction must unhappily now cease; and we must assume the odious character of plunderers, instead of the protectors of the people; the direct consequences of which, must be to alienate their minds from the army, and insensibly from the cause.

We have not yet been absolutely without flour; but we have *this* day, but *one* day's supply in camp; and I am not certain that there is a single barrel between this and Trenton. I shall be obliged therefore to draw one or two hundred barrels from a small magazine which I had endeavored to establish at West Point, for the security of the garrison in case of a sudden investiture.

From the above state of facts, it may be foreseen that this army cannot possibly remain much longer together, unless very vigorous and immediate measures are taken by the states to comply with the requisitions made upon them. The commissary general has neither the means nor the power of procuring supplies. He is only to receive them from the several agents. Without a speedy change of circumstances, this dilemma must be involved: either the army must disband, or what is if possible, worse, subsist upon the plunder of the people.

I would fain flatter myself that a knowledge of our situation, will produce the desired relief; not a relief of a few days, as has generally heretofore been the case, but a supply equal to the establishment of magazines for the winter. If these are not formed before the roads are broken up by the weather, we shall certainly experience the same difficulties and distresses the ensuing winter which we did the last. Although the troops

have, upon every occasion hitherto, borne their wants with unparalleled patience, it will be dangerous to trust too often to a repetition of the causes of discontent.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Liberty Pole, Bergen county, }  
28th August, 1780. }

Sir:—The intelligence brought by the Alliance frigate, renders it so very uncertain whether we shall be in condition to commence our expected operation before the expiration of the whole or the greater part of the time for which the militia were engaged, that I think it will be prudent to dismiss them as soon as possible; not only on the general scale of economy, but more particularly to avoid the unnecessary consumption of provision, for which we are extremely distressed, as my circular letter of this date fully describes.

You will therefore be pleased to discharge all those required by the committee of co-operation, as soon as General Heath shall be of opinion that the forwardness of the works at present on hand, will admit of it.

I would, however, recommend the completing your Continental battalions, upon this consideration: that in case we should be unexpectedly called to operate, the fuller those battalions are, the less will be the demand for militia.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To Governor Greene.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly, for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Newport, on the second Monday in September, 1780.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. William West, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that £10,411 13s. 4d., in Continental bills, of the old emissions, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, to William Taggart, Esq., it being the amount of an account by him charged against the state, for the chartering and expenses of two-thirds of the brigantine Success, fitted to the West Indies for salt, as examined and reported by the auditor.

Whereas, by reason of the present session of this Assembly, and the necessary attendance of the attorneys thereon, declarations for the inferior court of common pleas to be holden in South Kingstown, in and for the county of Kings, on the fourth Monday in September instant, cannot be filed to the said court within the time limited therefor,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that declarations and reasons of appeal to the said court may be filed at any time before the Sunday next preceding the said fourth Monday in September instant; and that answers may be filed on the first and second days of the sitting of the said court.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to receive of the several towns their respective proportions of the two taxes of £5,000 each, ordered at the last session of this Assembly, in the bills emitted by this state, funded on real estate; that he calculate and allow the interest which is already due, or may be due on the said bills, up to the respective periods at which the said taxes are made payable; and that he calculate the interest on the said bills from the 15th of June last, inclusive.

It is voted and resolved, that £1,800, in Continental bills, of the old emissions, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury to His Excellency William Greene, Esq., for his salary and services as Governor the last year.

It is voted and resolved, that £1,500, in Continental bills of the old emissions, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, to the Honorable Jabez Bowen, Esq., for his salary and services as Deputy Governor, the last year.

Whereas, it is highly reasonable that all persons while employed in the service of their country should be adequately paid therefor,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that there be allowed to each assistant for his attendance as a member of the General Assembly, £18, in Continental bills of the old emissions, per day; that the general treasurer be, and he is

hereby, directed to pay the same, accordingly, on receiving certificates of such attendance, signed by the secretary; and that the said allowance commence at the present session of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Rowse J. Helme, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to assist the attorney general in prosecuting Stephen Potter, agreeably to a former resolution of this Assembly.

Whereas, John Melcher, one of the new recruits in Col. Christopher Greene's regiment, hath been discharged, and has returned his bounty, the same being a promissory note for one hundred and seven silver dollars, given by Caleb Aldrich, Esq., of Smithfield,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the conduct of Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Ward, in discharging the said John Melcher, be, and the same is hereby, approved; and that the said note be assigned over to the said Samuel Ward, at his request, and charged to his account against the state, for the depreciation of his wages.

It is voted and resolved, that £6,000, in Continental bills of the old emissions, be advanced out of the general treasury, to Ezekiel Cornell, Esq., a delegate from this state to Congress, to defray his expenses while attending the same; that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to transmit the whole or part of the said sum, according to the state of the treasury, to the said Ezekiel Cornell, at Philadelphia, by the first safe conveyance.

Whereas, Samuel Chace, Esq., preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that his son, Samuel Chace, Jr., late commander of a sloop belonging to Messrs. Welcome Arnold and Company, of Providence, was captured by the ship Earl of Dunmore, and is now a prisoner in New York; and thereupon prayed that Captain Aaron Martin, who was captured by the ship General Washington, and is now a prisoner in Providence, may be sent, on his parole, to New York, to effect his exchange for that of the said Samuel Chace, Jr.,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Aaron Martin be, and he is hereby, permitted to proceed, on his parole, to New York, in the first flag from Newport or New London, to effect the exchange aforesaid ; that Nathaniel Dummer, Esq., commissary of prisoners, at Providence, take his parole accordingly ; and that the same be done without any expense to this state.

Whereas, Nicholas Spink, of Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment, who was taken by the enemy, in the year 1779, has just returned from captivity ; and whereas, it appears that there is considerable clothing due to him, which he was prevented from receiving with the said regiment, by reason of his captivity aforesaid,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier, to deliver unto the said Nicholas Spink, such clothing as shall appear to be due to him, by a certificate from the paymaster of the said regiment.

It is voted and resolved, that no Continental officer, residing within this state, who is not in actual service, shall be permitted to take or keep any soldier as a servant or waiter ; that every soldier who is now detained as a servant, by any such officer, be directed immediately to join the regiment, or corps, to which he belongs.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the issuing commissaries of provisions and forage, be, and they are hereby, directed not to issue any rations to any officer who is not in actual service as aforesaid ; or forage to the horse or horses of such officer.

Whereas, it is probable that the army of His Most Christian Majesty, commanded by le Compte de Rochambeau ; and also a part of the American army will be quartered in the town of Newport, the ensuing winter,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general, to appoint a barrack-master, to provide barracks for the said troops immediately ; and that it be

also recommended to him to appoint Jabez Champlin, Esq., to that office.

It is voted and resolved, that the commissary of hides and tallow in this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to furnish as soon as possible, one hundred and sixteen pair of shoes, for the non-commissioned officers and privates of Col. Christopher Greene's regiment, who are engaged during the war; that he also deliver one pair of boots to each commissioned officer of the said regiment; and that the said boots be discounted with the said officers, by their allowing therefor two pair of shoes, due to each officer for the present year, and deducting such part from the summer's clothing, which is due to them, agreeably to a resolution of Congress as the General Assembly or the council of war shall deem to be equal and just.

Both houses being resolved into a grand committee, chose the following officers, to wit:

*Civil Officers Chosen.*

Peres Richmond, Esq., sixth assistant, in the room of Samuel Fowler, Esq.. who declined.

Paul Mumford, Esq., second justice of the superior court of judicature, court of assize and general jail delivery, in and throughout the state, in the stead of William Ellery, Esq., who declines.

Peter Phillips, Esq., third justice of the same court, in the stead of Paul Mumford, Esq., promoted.

Rufus Hopkins, Esq., fourth justice of the same court, in the stead of Peter Phillips, Esq., promoted.

Edward Perry, Esq., the fourth, and Abel Tanner, Esq., the fifth justice of the inferior court of common pleas, and general sessions of the peace, within and for the county of Kings.

It is voted and resolved, that the deputies, for the time being, to represent the town of Newport, in General Assem-

bly, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to superintend the quartering of troops, either French or American, in the town of Newport; that the said committee be, and they are hereby, empowered to hear and determine on any complaints which may be made to them, respecting the barracking or quartering of troops on the inhabitants of the said town, or in houses in the said town, belonging to persons not residing therein; and that the barrack-master in the execution of his duty, apply to the said committee for instructions, and conduct himself accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that this state is not bound to pay the wages of any officers in the Continental service, which have become due since the 1st day of January last, or which may be due in future; or to advance to the said officers clothing, or any thing else which may be due to them by virtue of resolutions of Congress, except the wages, clothing, &c., which are or may be due to the officers of the regiments commanded by Colonel Christopher Greene and Colonel Israel Angell.

Whereas, Welcome Arnold, Esq., hath represented to this Assembly, that a vessel belonging to himself, and Jonathan and Thomas Arnold, is cast away on the east end of Long Island; and hath requested permission for a vessel and two persons to proceed to the said wreck, to save as much thereof as possible.—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said request be, and the same is hereby, granted; that Captain John Earl and Mr. Jonathan Arnold be, and they are hereby, permitted to go with a vessel to the said wreck, and to carry with them the necessary implements for saving the same, and the other effects; that they be permitted to bring the said wreck and other effects to any part of this state; and to bring off with them as many persons as may be necessary to navigate and secure the said wreck, in case they should get it off; and that it be, and hereby is, recommended to all officers, either by sea or land, and others, to permit

the said persons to proceed on the said business, without molestation, and to afford them all necessary assistance.

It is voted and resolved, that the council of war, at their next sitting, proceed in the settlement of Colonel William Barton's accounts with the state, and finally adjust the same; that the said William Barton be directed to pay the balance which will appear to be due from him on such settlement into the general treasury; and that in case of refusal so to do, the attorney general be, and he is hereby, directed to prosecute him for the said balance.

Whereas, it is represented to this Assembly, by James Lovett, Esq., quartermaster general of the militia of this state, that it is impracticable, in many instances, to ascertain the number of trips performed by the vessels employed in the public service, on the late alarm; and that in such case no provision has been made by the council of war, in their regulations of prices, for services done, &c., on the said alarm,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that when the number of trips performed by the said vessels as aforesaid, cannot be ascertained, in such case, the said James Lovett be, and he is hereby, directed to pay the owners of such vessels, at the rate of nine shillings per ton, per month, from the time of their being employed as aforesaid, until the time of their dismission.

It is voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to Colonel Christopher Greene to discharge John Charles, an Indian, belonging to Charlestown, and William Hardy from the service; it appearing to this Assembly that the time for which they enlisted, has expired.

Whereas, this Assembly did, at the last session, at the request of Mrs. ——— Ferguson, wife of Adam Ferguson, pass a resolve, for depositing all his personal estate in the hands of Captain George Burkinster, for her use; and whereas, she has requested that the said property may be delivered to her, to be at her own disposal,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said George Burkmaster be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to the said Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ Ferguson all the property which belonged to her husband, now in his hands.

It is voted and resolved, that the families of the following persons be, and they are hereby, permitted to remove from Newport to New York, to wit:

Lieutenant \_\_\_\_\_ Goldsmith, Bernard Penrose, Samuel Whitehorn, Joseph Durfee, Isaac Lawton and William Wanton; and to take with them their household furniture and wearing apparel, and no other kind of property, whatever; and that they proceed in the cartel vessel from New York, now in the harbor of Newport, under the direction of the Honorable Major General Heath.

Whereas, it appears to this Assembly that a tax £397 16s. 6d., in Continental money of the old emissions, hath been assessed on the estate of Samuel Goldthwait, who has since gone to New York, and has left but very little property in this state,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said sum of £397 16s. 6d., be remitted; and that the general treasurer deduct the same out of the proportion of the town of Newport, of the taxes of which the said sum is a part.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. John Hawkins be, and he is hereby, appointed immediately to deliver the hay cut on the Point Farm (so called), in South Kingstown, belonging to the state, to Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general, taking his receipt therefor; and that the same be charged to the United States, as part of this state's quota of forage, required by a resolution of Congress.

Whereas, many persons have been entrusted with public money, and have neglected seasonably to account for the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the council of war, at their next meeting, appoint a time for all persons who have accounts with the state unsettled, to appear before them and settle the same; and that in case of neglect

of such persons to appear and settle their accounts accordingly, the attorney general be, and he is hereby, directed to prosecute every person delinquent as aforesaid.

Whereas, there is the highest probability that the horses which the commissary of purchases was heretofore directed to purchase for the public service will not be wanted the present campaign,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said commissary be, and he is hereby, directed to desist from purchasing any more horses, until the further order of this Assembly; and that he deliver immediately the horses he has already purchased, to Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general, taking his receipt therefor.

Whereas, Mr. Joseph Taylor, of Charlestown, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that in the expedition upon Rhode Island, under the command of Gen. Sullivan, he turned out as a volunteer with the first class in the said expedition, in Captain —— Parke's company, belonging to Colonel Joseph Noyes's regiment; that he did duty on the said island until the said class was ordered to return; that to his great surprise he was returned by the said Captain Parke to the committee for classing the inhabitants of Charlestown, as a delinquent; that a warrant has been issued against him by the said committee for the sum of \$1,350, and costs, as his proportion for hiring a soldier; and that in consequence thereof, his stock has been seized and notified for sale; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to grant him relief; which being duly considered, together with the attestation and recommendation of divers respectable inhabitants of the said town of Charlestown,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be granted; that the officer who seized the said stock be, and he is hereby, directed to release and return the same to the said Joseph Taylor; and that the said Joseph Taylor be discharged from all and every sum of money assessed upon him as aforesaid.

It is voted and resolved, that William Bradford, Jr., major of Colonel Henry Sherburne's regiment be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw £1,121, in Continental bills of the old emissions, out of the general treasury; that the same be paid at his request to his brother, Mr. Le Baron Bradford; and that the said sum be charged to him in part for the balance due to him on his depreciation account.

It is voted and resolved, that the person employed by the postmaster in the town of Newport to bring the letters and papers from Tower Hill, directed to his office, pass the ferries between Rhode Island and South Kingstown, without paying any consideration therefor; and that the proprietors of the said ferries and the ferrymen be, and they are hereby, directed to carry the said person across the said ferries, agreeably to this resolution.

Whereas, it appears that there are deficiencies in several towns in their respective proportions of six months, men,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that William Taggart, Joseph Stanton, Jr., John Jenckes, Charles Holden and Benjamin Bourne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into and ascertain the exact deficiencies of the several towns in their respective proportions of the said men; and that they make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

Whereas, Mr. Joseph Almy, of Tiverton, preferred a petition unto this Assembly, representing that Mr. John Almy, has neglected to keep up the ferry between Tiverton and Rhode Island, although often solicited thereto; that upon the neglect of the said John Almy, he has had frequent applications from the inhabitants to set up a ferry, and in consequence thereof, has provided a boat, and a place convenient for travellers; and thereupon prayed this Assembly that he may have liberty to set up a ferry, as aforesaid; and a considerable number of the inhabitants of the said town of Tiverton and places adjacent, having subscribed

the said petition; which being duly considered, and the said John Almy having been duly cited to answer the same,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be granted; and that the said Joseph Almy have liberty to set up a ferry, agreeably to the said petition; it appearing to this Assembly that the establishing of a ferry at the said place, will be beneficial to the community.

Whereas, it is represented to this Assembly, by the corporation of the university, or college, in this state, that the college edifice which has been taken by the state for an hospital for the troops of His Most Christian Majesty, hath had some alterations made therein, injurious to the same; and whereas, this Assembly are willing to afford every assistance to our friends and allies, as well as to preserve the rights of the proprietors of any building they may have occasion to use,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Stephen Hopkins, Nicholas Cooke and Jabez Bowen, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to consult and advise with the director general of the said hospital, if any further alterations in the said building shall become necessary; and that they, or the major part of them, be, and they are hereby, empowered to point out the manner in which the same shall be done.

It is voted and resolved, that £58,712 16s. 11d., in Continental bills, of the old emissions, be advanced to Col. Israel Angell's regiment, on account of the balances due to the officers and soldiers of the said regiment, for the depreciation of their wages; the same being their proportion of the £75,000 heretofore ordered to be paid to the said regiment and the regiment commanded by Col. Christopher Greene; that Lieut. Col. Samuel Ward be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the aforesaid sum of £58,712 16s. 11d., out of the general treasury; and that he convey the same to the pay-

master of Colonel Angell's regiment, to be by him paid to the officers and soldiers in the said regiment, in proportion to the balances due to them respectively.

It is voted and resolved, that the resignation of Captain Philip Traforn, of Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment be, and the same is hereby, accepted.

Whereas, Mr. John Norris, lately an inhabitant of the town of Newport, who, at the time of the evacuation of Rhode Island by the enemy, was upon Long Island procuring wood for his family, is now on board the cartel vessel from New York, and requests to be permitted to return to and reside in this state, as an inhabitant thereof; and it being represented that the said John Norris is well affected to the liberties of the United States,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said request be granted; that the said John Norris be permitted to come ashore, and to bring his effects with him; and that he appear immediately before this Assembly and take an oath of allegiance and fidelity to the state.

Whereas, the deputies from several towns in this state, have represented, by petition, to this Assembly, that their constituents conceive that the general estimate of the ratable property of this state, adopted and established by this Assembly at the last session, is very erroneous; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to appoint a committee to re-examine the said estimate, and correct such errors as may appear therein; and whereas, this Assembly is disposed to hear and relieve the grievances of any part of the state, more especially on a subject of so great importance as that of taxation,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that a committee be appointed for that purpose; that the said committee consist of ten members; two from each county in the state; who are hereby empowered and directed to proceed into each county, to correct such mistakes in the said estimate as shall appear therein, and make such alterations in the valuation of estates in the several towns as they shall judge reasonable.

ble; and that they make report thereof to this Assembly at the session to be holden by law in October next.

It is further voted and resolved, that the several towns be, and they are hereby, empowered to depute one of their inhabitants to attend the said committee, at the expense of the town deputing him, to point out to them such mistakes as shall appear in the said estimate.

It is further voted and resolved, that Pardon Gray, Esek Hopkins, Peter Phillips, Benjamin Bourne, Thomas Tillinghast, Richard Steere, Abel Tanner and William Taggart, Esqs.; and Mr. Thomas Allin and Benjamin Tillinghast, Esq., be and constitute the said committee.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if it shall appear to the satisfaction of this Assembly that any town is overburthened in its proportion of the several taxes assessed at the last session, such town shall be reimbursed; and if it shall appear that any town has been assessed in the said taxes less than its proportion, such town shall be required to pay to the amount of its reasonable proportion.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins and Nathan Miller, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to sell all the wrecks left by the enemy in the bays, harbors and rivers of this state; and being the property of this state, together with the pig iron, and all the other articles that have been saved therefrom; that they dispose of the same either at public or private sale, and lodge the money arising therefrom, in the general treasury; and that they make report to this Assembly as soon as may be.

Whereas, Mr. Martin Benson, of Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that in May last he obtained permission from the council of war of this state to proceed to the island of St. Christophers, for the purpose of recovering his property, then in the said island; that in pursuance of said permission, he took passage in the sloop Hope, Capt. Benjamin Alger, bound to Grenada; that the said sloop was taken on the passage and carried into Antigua, where he procured a vessel, which he manned with

Americans, and proceeded to St. Martins, and from thence to St. Christophers, where he recovered his property, and took the same on board ; that in order to secure his vessel from being captured by British vessels of war, he obtained a clearance for Halifax, in Nova Scotia, with an intention to put into the first port he should make within the United States ; that in the prosecution of his said intention, he was taken by the ship Rhodes, Nehemiah Buffington, commander, belonging to Salem ; that notwithstanding he produced the resolve of the council of war as aforesaid, and the permission of His Excellency the Governor, grounded thereon, his vessel and papers were taken from him, and sent into Salem ; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to grant him letters recommendatory to the legislature of the state of Massachusetts, that he may obtain satisfaction for the injury he has received ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted ; that William Channing and Thos. Rumreill, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draught a letter accordingly ; and that they report the same, as soon as may be.

Whereas, Mrs. Mary Mawdfley, wife of John Mawdfley, Esq., preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that her husband is now at New York, with whom she is desirous to be, especially as he has requested it ; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to grant her liberty to proceed to New York, and take with her her family, household furniture and personal effects ; that as it will be inconvenient for the whole to go at one time, she may be permitted to send part of her effects in the cartel vessel now in the harbor of Newport, and dispose of the remainder, or take it with her, when she shall find an opportunity to go ; and that her brother, Peleg Bardin, may be permitted to accompany her ; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Mary Mawdfley be, and she is hereby, permitted to dispose of or send to New

York in the said cartel vessel such part of her household furniture as she shall think necessary; that she have liberty to proceed to New York, with her family, wearing apparel, the remainder of her household furniture, her milk cow and chaise, whenever she may think it convenient, under the direction of Major General Heath, or the commander-in-chief in this state for the time being; that the said Peleg Bardin be, and he is hereby, permitted to accompany her, as a prisoner of war, on parole, in order to effect his exchange; and that Major General Heath be requested to give him his parole accordingly.

Whereas, Mary Acklin, wife of Philip Acklin, of Jamestown, ferryman, preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that her said husband is now in the harbor of Newport, on board the cartel vessel lately arrived from New York; that he is desirous of taking her, her child and household furniture with him to New York, in the said vessel; and thereupon prayed this Assembly that she may have liberty to go with him, accordingly; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Mary Acklin be, and she is hereby, permitted to proceed to New York, in the said vessel, and to carry her child, wearing apparel, and household furniture, under the direction of Major General Heath.

Whereas, the real estate late of Andrew Oliver, Esq., and his wife, situate in Tiverton, descended to three of his children, as heirs thereto, whose names are unknown; who, contrary to the duty of their allegiance, and without the permission of the legislature of this state, or any other of the United States, have withdrawn themselves into parts and places under the authority and dominion of the king of Great Britain, then and now at open war with these United States, and have therein aided and assisted the common enemy of these states; whereby the said estate hath, by the laws of this state, become liable to forfeiture to and for the use of this state; and whereas, by the said heirs not

being known, with their particular parts or rights in the said estate, it may be difficult, if not impossible, to proceed in the trial of the said estate, and the same thereby remain undetermined, though justly liable to forfeiture, unless some special mode be devised for bringing it before the proper court for trial,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the clerk of the superior court for the county of Newport, within ten days from the rising of this Assembly, cause notifications to be printed three weeks successively in the Newport and Providence newspapers; and in two of the Boston newspapers, therein notifying the heirs of the said Andrew Oliver, Esq., and all others claiming any right or interest therein, to appear, if they see fit, in person or by attorney, to show cause, if any they have, why the said estate (which the said clerk shall cause to be described in as particular manner as possible) shall not be adjudged and declared forfeit to and for the use of this state, before the superior court of judicature, court of assize, &c., to be holden at Newport, in and for the county of Newport, on the second Monday of November next; to which time the said court shall adjourn.

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that in case no person or persons shall appear before the said court to claim and defend the same, the court shall, and they are hereby empowered to, proceed on the trial thereof, in manner as the law directs; that if they shall adjudge and determine the same to be forfeit, the said estate shall escheat and enure to the use of this state in as full and ample manner, as though the several heirs to the said estate, and their several rights and claims thereto were particularly known, named and described in the process against the same.

And be it further enacted, that the clerk of the said court be, and he is hereby, directed and empowered to issue notifications on the informations already filed, and which have not been issued by reason of the late alarm, citing the per-

sons concerned therein, to appear at the time and place to which the said court shall adjourn.

A draught of a letter\* to the president of the council of the state of Massachusetts, respecting the capture of a vessel belonging to Mr. Martin Benson, and carried into that state, presented unto this Assembly by the committee appointed for that purpose, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, approved; that a fair copy thereof be made; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to sign and transmit the same as soon as possible.

Whereas, Captain Samuel Snow, in Colonel Christopher

\* *The Governor of Rhode Island to the President of the Council of Massachusetts.*

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, }  
Newport, September 16, 1780.

Sir:—I am desired by the General Assembly, now convened at this place, to request the attention, and interposition of the Assembly or council of your state, relative to a matter of the greatest importance to Mr. Martin Benson, an inhabitant of this state.

Mr. Benson, who is a merchant, \* \* \* \* used the African trade for a considerable time before the commencement of the present hostilities by Great Britain, had a large property in the British island of St. Christophers, which he was anxious to remove into the United States.

As Mr. Benson's conduct and character, as a good citizen, entitled him to receive every protection which this state could give him, for the removing and protecting his property, agreeably to the proceedings of Congress and the legislatures of other states in similar cases, the council of war accordingly gave Mr. Benson permission to pass from this state by the way of a neutral port to St. Christophers, and to invest his property there in a vessel and cargo, and return with the same into some port within the United States.

In pursuance thereof, Mr. Benson was furnished with the necessary papers, duly authenticated, under the seal of this state, with which he proceeded to said island; and having invested his property there in a vessel and cargo, was on a voyage to this state, met by the private ship of war Rhodes, commanded by Nehemiah Buffington, belonging to Salem; who, notwithstanding he was shown the protection aforesaid, from the state, of his permission to proceed in manner as he had done, seized his vessel and cargo, and took Mr. Benson and all the hands out of said vessel, whereby Mr. Benson has been utterly deprived of his property to a very large amount. Mr. Benson will be able by the papers which he will show, to fully demonstrate every particular herein.

I cannot be under any apprehension but what Mr. Benson will have strict justice done him by your Assembly or Council, as it is an affair of such notoriety that the property belonged to a good citizen of this state, and he had permission to bring them here, or in some other port of the United States.

For Mr. Benson to be under the necessity of going through all the formalities of a tedious law suit to obtain his property upon a case so plain and obvious as is here pointed out, will be attended with such expense and delay, that it will injure Mr. Benson in the highest degree.

I must now request that an inquiry may be made into the conduct of the said Nehemiah Buffington, the commander of said ship; and that such measures may be adopted as will be conducive to justice, and in future prevent the property of the subjects of the United States under the circumstances of Mr. Benson, from being seized.

I am, sir, in behalf of, and by request of, the General Assembly,

With great esteem, your humble servant,

WILLIAM GREENE.

To the President of the Council of Massachusetts.

Greene's regiment, has requested permission to resign his commission in the said regiment,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that permission be, and the same is hereby, granted him, accordingly.

Whereas, Mr. George Howell preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that formerly he was an inhabitant of Long Island, in the state of New York, under the power of the fleet and army of the king of Great Britain; that being desirous of removing from thence, and of embarking his person and property in the cause of America, he made application to, and on the 7th day of July last obtained permission from, Congress for that purpose, with a passport, securing his person from imprisonment, and his effects from seizure; that on the 27th day of said July he requested of, and had liberty from, the council of war of this state, to remove, with his property, into this state; that having removed, with a part of his effects, he was on the 20th day of August last arrested by the sheriff of the county of Providence, in consequence of a warrant from His Excellency the Governor, upon suspicion of his being inimical to the United States; and that his goods were seized, and still remain in custody of the said sheriff; and thereupon prayed this Assembly that his person may be released, and his property restored to him; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said George Howell and his property, now in the custody of the said sheriff be released, upon his recognizing, with sufficient security, to appear at the General Assembly to be holden in October next, and answer such charges as shall then be exhibited against him.

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing, Esq., Mr. Joseph Brown, and Rowse J. Helme, Benjamin Bourne, and Thomas Tillinghast, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed to draught a bill for tendering an oath of allegiance and fidelity to the inhabitants of this state; and that they report the same to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, it is highly proper to afford every aid and assistance to the forces of His Most Christian Majesty, now in this state, in procuring and purchasing timber, plank, boards, wood, and other necessaries, and to prevent impositions therein; and whereas, the Honorable Lieutenant-General Count de Rochambeau has requested the interposition of this Assembly in that behalf,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Christopher Elley and Caleb Gardner, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, recommended to the said Count de Rochambeau, as persons proper to be advised with and employed by him in such services; and they are hereby required, when so employed, to use their utmost exertions therein, agreeably to the intentions of this Assembly, herein expressed.

It is further voted and resolved, that all civil magistrates and executive officers of this state be, and they are hereby, required to give all that aid and assistance to the officers of every department employed in the service of His Most Christian Majesty, within this state, which the officers or persons employed in the army of the United States are by the laws and orders of this state entitled to.

It is voted and resolved, that Nathaniel Dummer, Esq., deputy commissary of prisoners, now at Providence, be, and he is hereby, directed to remove to Newport; it appearing to this Assembly that the said town is the most suitable place for his residence at present.

Whereas, Welcome Arnold, Edward Bosworth, William Taggart and Rowse J. Helme, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly, relative to the pay of the Justices of the Superior Court.*

We, the subscribers being appointed a committee to report what allowances for the future ought to be made to the justices of the superior court, by the state, are of opinion that the sum of \$3, in specie, or the value thereof in Continental money, be allowed to the chief justice for each and every day he shall attend upon the said court; and that the sum of \$2 50, in specie, or the value thereof in Continental money, be al-

lowed to each of the assistant justices for each and every day they shall attend upon the said court for business, exclusive of the usual perquisites which are paid by persons prosecuting cases in the said court.

All which is submitted by your obedient servants,

WELCOME ARNOLD, WILLIAM TAGGART,

EDWARD BOSWORTH,

ROWSE J. HELME,

Committee.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby, accepted; that the said justices be allowed accordingly for each and every day's attendance on the said court; and that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to pay the same, upon their producing a certificate thereof, signed by the respective clerks of the said court.

Whereas, by reason of the late alarm, the tax of £400,000, in Continental money, and the tax for £10,000, in specie, ordered to be assessed upon the inhabitants of this state, at the last session of this Assembly, have not been assessed in many of the towns within this state; and whereas, the time has elapsed for assessing, and for issuing warrants for collecting the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the towns which have not been assessed the said taxes be, and they are hereby, empowered to assess the same, by the 30th day of September instant, and make return thereof to the general treasurer, who is thereupon directed to issue his warrants for collecting and paying the same, by the 10th day of November next.

It is further voted and resolved, that the towns which have already assessed the said taxes, be allowed until the said 10th day of November, for collecting and paying the same; that no execution issue against any town for the non-payment thereof, until the said time shall be expired; and that such of the said towns as have not already chosen their assessors and collectors for assessing and collecting the said taxes be, and they are hereby, empowered to choose new assessors and collectors, for assessing and collecting the same.

An Act for the sale of the real estates therein described, for redeeming the bills of credit heretofore emitted, and funded on real estate, and for supplying the treasury, and discharging the debts of the state.

Whereas, by an act of this Assembly, passed at the session held in June last, for emitting the sum of £20,000, provision was therein made for the redemption thereof, by the sale of the real estates forfeited to the state hereafter mentioned, to wit:

The Point farm (so called), lying in South Kingstown, containing about twelve hundred acres.

The farm in North Kingstown, late George Rome's, containing about two hundred acres.

The farm in North Kingstown, late Thomas Moffatt's, consisting of about two hundred acres.

The farm in Exeter, late Samuel Boone's, consisting of about six hundred acres; and—

The farm in Bristol, late belonging to the heirs of John Borland, deceased, consisting of about two hundred and fifty acres.

And whereas, since the passing of the said act, the sum of £10,000, part thereof has been assessed upon the inhabitants of this state; the one-half thereof payable into the general treasury by the 1st day of September instant; the other half thereof by the 1st day of November next.

And whereas, provision is to be made agreeably to the said act, for the redemption of the residue of the said sum, being £10,000, by the 1st day of January next,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the persons hereafter named be, and are hereby, appointed a committee to make sale of the real estates before described, on or before the 1st day of December next, at public vendue, to the highest bidder, for gold and silver, or the bills before mentioned, and for no other currency whatever; that one-eighth of the purchase money be paid on the day of sale; three-eighths thereof by the 15th day of December next, and the remainder on or before the last day of said December; that in case the purchaser shall neglect to pay the said three-eighths by the time aforesaid, the money advanced on the day of purchase, shall be forfeited to and for the use of this state; and that the land be again exposed to public sale, as the said committee shall order; so that the money arising from the sale thereof shall be received and paid into the general treasury, for the purpose, and within the time aforesaid.

And be it further enacted, that upon the sale of the said estates, and the payment of the whole purchase money as aforesaid, the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to make and execute unto the purchaser or purchasers, a good and authentic deed or deeds of the same, in behalf of this state, in fee simple, with warranty.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the money arising from the sales as aforesaid, be lodged in the general treasury of this state; that such part thereof as shall be paid in gold or silver, be first appropriated for the redemption of the bills emitted as aforesaid; that the general treasurer be, and is hereby, directed to apply the same accordingly; and that the remainder be at the disposal of this Assembly, for the discharge of the debts of this state.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that William Richmond, John Jenckes, John Northup, William Bradford and Thomas Holden, Esqs., be, and they, or the major part of them, are hereby, appointed a committee for the purpose aforesaid; that the said committee advertise the time and place of sale in the Newport and Providence newspapers; in one of the Boston, and in the New London and Hartford newspapers; and that they cause the said estates to be surveyed, and partition thereof to be made, as that the same may be disposed to the best advantage.

And whereas, from the present exigency of our public affairs, it is become necessary to provide an immediate supply of the treasury,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that the real estates hereafter named, belonging to this state, be sold by the said committee at public vendue, to the highest bidder, for gold and silver only, or the certificates which may be given by the commissary of purchases, as is herein-after ordered, on the 15th day of November next, to wit :

The farm in Bristol, late belonging to William Vassal, Esq., containing two hundred and twenty acres.

The farm in Middletown, late belonging to George Rome, containing about one hundred and twenty acres.

The farm in Portsmouth, late belonging to Isaac Lawton, containing about one hundred and twenty acres.

The farm on the island of Prudence, late belonging to Joseph and William Wanton, containing about eight hundred acres ; and—

Two lots in South Kingstown, late belonging to the heirs of John Borland, deceased, containing one hundred and twenty acres.

And that the said committee cause the said estates to be surveyed and divided, and the time and place of sale to be advertised in manner as is herein before directed.

It is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that one-eighth of the purchase money shall be paid on the day of sale ; three-eighths by the 1st day of December next, and the remainder thereof by the 1st day of March next ; that in case of failure of the second payment, the money paid upon the day of purchase shall be forfeited to the use of this state, and thereupon the said estates be again disposed of at public vendue, as the said committee shall order ; and that upon the payment of the whole purchase money as aforesaid, the general treasurer be, and is hereby, empowered and directed in behalf of this state, to make and execute a good and effectual deed or deeds of the same to the purchaser or purchasers, in fee simple, with warranty.

It is further enacted, that the money arising from the sale of the said estates, be paid into the general treasury ; that the general treasurer first apply the same to the discharge of the certificates which shall be given by the commissary of purchases, as is hereinafter directed ; and that the remainder be at the disposal of this Assembly.

And whereas, this state is called upon to continue the monthly supplies of provisions, for the use of the army, agreeably to the requisitions of the committee of Congress, and of the commander-in-chief,—

It is therefore further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the commissary of purchases be, and he is hereby, empowered to give to the persons of whom he shall purchase any of the articles required as aforesaid, a certificate, specifying the quantity of the article, and of whom purchased, the times of purchase and of payment, and sum allowed for the same in gold or silver ; which certificate, so made and signed by the said commissary, shall entitle the possessor thereof to receive of the general treasurer at the time therein specified, the amount thereof in gold or silver.

It is further enacted, that the said certificates be printed, numbered and countersigned ; and that Rowse J. Helme and William Channing, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draught a form of said certificate, to procure a sufficient number thereof to be printed, and to number and countersign the same.

And it is further enacted, that the general treasurer deliver the said certificates to the aid commissary, and take his receipt for the same ; and that the said commissary, when he shall deliver out the said certificates, be, and he is hereby, directed to take a receipt for the same, and make a return thereof, once at least in every month, to the council of war, or to this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Christopher Ellery and William Taggart, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to take an inventory of the furniture and apparel of the persons permitted to go to New York, by this Assembly; and that the same be done at the expense of the persons to whom they belong.

It is voted and resolved, that William Richmond, John Jenckes, John Northup and Thomas Holden, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee, to join with Mr. Edward K. Wolcot, and make partition of the Point farm (so called), lying in South Kingstown, of which this state and the said Edward K. Wolcot are tenants in common.

Provided nevertheless, that the said partition shall not operate to bar any right of this state to the one-fourth part of the said farm, which may be so set off, by the said committee, to the said Edward K. Wolcot, if any such right should hereafter appear.

It is voted and resolved, that the secretary make out, as soon as may be, a copy, duly authenticated, of the act of this Assembly, for emitting this state's quota of the Continental currency, and calling in and sinking the same; and that he deliver it to His Excellency the Governor, who is hereby requested to forward the same to Ezekiel Cornell, Esq., a delegate from this state at Congress.

On the request of Mrs. Mary Witherell, to be permitted to go to New York, in the cartel vessel now laying in the harbor of Newport, with her family, wearing apparel and household furniture,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is granted; and that she be permitted to go, accordingly, under the direction of the Honorable Major General Heath.

Whereas, it appears to this Assembly, that twelve tons of hay were cut off the estate of George Irish, Esq., in Middletown, by the British troops while they were in possession of Rhode Island, and that the same was left in the British forage yard, when they evacuated the said island; and where-

as, the said George Irish has borrowed six tons of hay of Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., deputy quartermaster general, and has for the reason aforesaid, requested this Assembly to direct the said Ephraim Bowen to discharge him from his obligation to return the said hay,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to the said Ephraim Bowen not to call on the said George Irish for the said six tons of hay, or any part thereof.

Whereas, Archibald Crary, Esq., presented unto this Assembly the following accounts, to wit:

*Archibald Crary's Account with the State.*

1780.	State of Rhode Island, &c., in account with Archibald Crary,	Dr.
Aug. 5.	To cash paid for provisions, men's wages, &c., for the snow Black Prince, as per bills and receipts	£ s. d.
	..... Creditor.	7,082 16 0
	By cash received out of the general treasury .....	2,700 00 0
	" balance due .....	4,382 16 0
		£7,082 16 0

State of Rhode Island, &c., in account with Archibald Crary,	Dr.
To cash in specie for cargo, as per bills of lading .....	£ s. d.
" " advanced to the men .....	105 02 0
" " for writing charter party .....	20 12 0
	06 0
	£126 00 0
Creditor.	
By cash received out of the general treasury, in specie.....	120 00 0
" " balance due.....	6 00 0
	£126 00 0
Errors excepted:	ARCHIBALD CRARY.

Newport, September 18th, 1780.

And the same having been examined by the auditor,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said account be allowed; and that the said balances due thereon of £6, in specie, and £4,382 16s., in Continental money, of the old emissions, be paid to the said Archibald Crary, out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Jabez Bowen, Esek Hopkins and Welcome Arnold, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to adjust the accounts of Jonathan Arnold, Esq., director-general of the hospitals of the militia of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that Thomas Tillinghast, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed fifth justice of the superior court of judicature, court of assize and general jail delivery within and throughout this state, he having resigned his seat as a member of the lower house, in the room of Gideon Comstock, Esq, who has resigned his seat in the said court.

That Aaron Bowen, Esq., fifth justice of the inferior court of common pleas and general sessions of the peace, within and for the county of Kent, be, and he is hereby, appointed fourth justice of the said court, in the room of Thomas Tillinghast, Esq., appointed a justice of the superior court; and—

That Job Pearce, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed fifth justice of the said inferior court in the room of the said Aaron Bowen.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed at the present session, to revise the general estimate, be, and they are hereby, severally empowered to draw one thousand Continental dollars, of the old emissions, out of the general treasury; and that they account for the same.

Voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

### *Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

£ s. d.	
Walter Channing, paymaster of Col. Archibald Crary's regiment, for expenses, &c., in going from Bristol to Providence, at divers times, for money for the recruiting service, &c. ....	76 18 00
Lieut. Seth Chapin, pay abstract of a detachment of Lieut. Col. Church's regiment of militia .....	47 04 00
John Jenckes, for his expenses in renting confiscated estates.....	240 00 00
Peter Phillips, for his expenses in leasing the state's farms.....	240 00 00
Charles Holden, Jr.     "     "     "     "     " .....	240 00 00
Preserved Pearce, for delivering acts of Assembly to divers towns.....	100 00 00

	£ s. d.
Charles Holden, on account of purchases made by him .....	1,000 00 00
George Irish, to purchase a ferry boat for the west side of Jamestown.....	400 00 00
Benjamin Barker,, for pay abstract of a part of Captain Henry Dayton's corps .....	53 10 00
William Bradford, Jr., in Continental bills, old emission, for balance due him on his depreciation account.....	1,121 00 00
Bennett Wheeler, for printing done for the state, July 21 to Septem- ber 6, 1780 .....	760 00 00
Peter Phillips, justice of the superior court, for attendance at Tiver- ton, \$700.	
Thomas Arnold, for attendance on said court.....	60 00 00
John Easton, " " " "	60 00 00
Henry Peckham, " " " "	60 00 00
Seth Chapin, for going after evidences to attend the above court, \$423 50.	
George Lawton, a wounded soldier, (in Continental money, old emission) ..	300 00 00
Daniel Mowry, Jr., balance due him for services and expenses as one of the committee who took the general estimate (in Continental money) ..	4,535 08 00
William Richmond, balance for the same service " " .....	3,837 16 80
Thomas Holden, " " " "	3,998 05 00
Rowse J. Helme, " " " "	4,105 14 00
Lieut. Col. Samuel Ward, balance due the officers and soldiers of Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment (in Continental bills) for depreciation of their wages.....	485 03 01
Major Daniel Box, on account for depreciation .....	500 00 00
Capt. Philip Trafforn, his pay in Col. Greene's regiment.....	163 04 00
Joseph Stanton, Jr., for attending council of war.....	90 00 00
William Bradford, for his time, horse hire and expenses in going to Boston	306 12 00
Capt. Samuel Snow, for pay in Col. Christopher Greene's regiment.....	72 00 00
John Garzia, of Col. R. Elliott's regiment, subsistence abstract .....	537 05 10
Jabez Champlin, for services as barrack-master.....	600 00 00
Archibald Crary, for his services and expenses to Newport and Stonington to charter a vessel to procure salt for the state.....	480 00 00
Joseph Brown, his attendance as waiter on the General Assembly .....	120 00 00
Daniel Dunham, " " " "	120 00 00
John Handy, services as auditor of accounts.....	60 00 00
Ephraim Bowen, Jr., to discharge a balance due to Wm. Channing, and for money advanced by him for supplies for the militia, in Continental money, old emission, \$2,500.	
Benjamin Bourne, for paper, and attendance on the General Assembly....	338 00 00
William Mumford, " " " "	306 00 00

God save the United States of America.

*General Nathaniel Greene to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Camp at Kennemark, Sept. 5th, 1780.

Dear Sir:—We have just received the disagreeable intelligence of General Gates's defeat to the southward, with all the troops under his command. The action happened on the 16th of last month, within a few miles of Camden, at which place the enemy lay; and to which place our troops were directing their march.

The two armies met in the night, and a little skirmishing ensued; but the action was not serious until the morning. At day light, General Gates made the necessary dispo-

sition of his troops, consisting of between eight hundred and a thousand regulars ; and about two thousand militia, and some few horse. The enemy had from twelve hundred to fifteen hundred regular troops, and about one thousand militia.

Our militia gave way the first fire ; and left the Continental troops to bear the brunt of the whole of the enemy's force ; which they did with great spirit and bravery. Gen. Gesh, who commanded one of the Maryland brigades, repulsed the enemy with charged bayonets ; but the militia quitting their ground, let the enemy into his rear.

General Gates made several unsuccessful attempts to rally the militia ; but they were so panic struck, it was all to no purpose ; and the general was borne away on the road ; and had the mortification to leave the Maryland line bravely engaged, without having it in his power to assist them, or even to tell what was their fate ; but as the firing ceased after he had got eight or ten miles in the rear, he supposes they must have been cut to pieces ; however, this is not certain by any means from any intelligence we have as yet received. Further particulars are hourly expected.

Reports come on with General Gates's letter ; which say that both General Smallwood and Gesh are slain ; and that Baron de Kalb is wounded ; but there is no authority for it.

We lost eight pieces of cannon, and doubtless all our baggage and stores. The militia dispersing and taking to the woods, few or none of them fell into the enemy's hands ; but probably many of them might suffer greatly for want or provisions, and perhaps some might perish.

General Gates retreated one hundred and eighty miles in three days, to Hillsborough ; at which place he wrote to Congress of the misfortune which had befall him.

This is a great misfortune ; and the more so, as that unfortunate country was too discouraged before, to make any great exertions. However, it was beginning to recover itself, and some few days before the action, we had gained several advantages, and taken several hundred prisoners.

It is high time for America to raise an army for the war, and not distress the country by short enlistments, and hazard the liberties of these states with an order of men, whose feelings, let their principles be ever so good, cannot be like those who have been long in the field.

I am, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

NATH. GREENE.

N. B. I wish you not to have any part of this letter published, as the president of Congress did not think it proper to publish General Gates's letter, until the arrival of further particulars.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

### *Gen. Greene to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Camp, Sept. 22d, 1780.

Dear Sir :—This will be handed you by His Excellency the Chevalier de la Lusurne, the minister of France, who is on his way to Newport, to visit the French army. His stay will be short ; therefore whatever honors you mean to pay to him, must be done in a day or two after his arrival, as his stay will not exceed five days. His zeal for our cause, and the attachment he has manifested for our interest, entitles him to every mark of public respect, and private esteem.

The affairs to the southward are still more agreeable than the account I mentioned in my last. Most of the prisoners taken in the action at Camden, were rescued by Col. Marion, as they were on their march to Charlestown. Upon the whole, the British have got little to brag of. General Gates's first account was shocking, and very premature.

Reports are in New York that an expedition is planning there against Wilmington, North Carolina; and another against Portsmouth, in Virginia. But some people think the whole is against Newport.

We have no news of the fleet; and are ready to conclude that Count de Guichen, gone back again to the West Indies.

Nothing new in this quarter. Hitherto we have had a very inactive campaign in these northern states; and I am afraid it will end so.

I beg my compliments to Mrs. Greene, and am, with—

Great esteem and regard, your most humble, obedient servant,

NATH. GREENE.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

### *Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, September 22d, 1780.

Sir:—Yesterday I received intelligence from the best authority that Admiral Rodney arrived at Sandy Hook on the 13th instant, with ten sail of the line, and two frigates; and on the 15th detached Commodore Drake with four sail of the line to join Admiral Arbuthnot, near Gardner's Island, which was effected on the 18th. The design of this junction, it was said, was to intercept twelve sail of French men of war, supposed to be coming from the West Indies to this place.

A body of troops were also ordered to embark at New York immediately; by some, their destination was supposed to be Virginia; by others, to this place. I have thought it best to order Col. Greene's regiment back to this island.

The French general is desirous that the militia may be notified to hold themselves in readiness to come in on the shortest notice, should it be necessary. If Your Excellency should be of opinion that such notice is necessary to facilitate the coming in of the militia of your state, previous to the call for them to march, I request that it may be done.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To Governor Greene.

### *The Governor of Rhode Island to General Heath.*

Warwick, September 23d, 1780.

Sir:—I received your two favors of yesterday, and noted their contents. I am doubtful whether it would make any material difference the notifying of the militia to be in readiness so as to facilitate their coming in, should there be a necessity for it, as they have heretofore been often notified in the same way, without an alarm.

I am glad you have ordered Col. Greene to return with his regiment. I imagine that through the hurry of business the affair respecting the intercourse between Block Island and the main, was passed over unnoticed, I do not recollect to have seen any vote from the lower house respecting that matter; do therefore recommend to you to issue the same orders now, and continue them until the sitting of the council of war, who are to convene in Providence on the 2d day of next month, as you did in consequence of the late resolve of the late council of war held in Bristol, before whom I will mention the affair.

I yesterday received a letter from Christopher Ellery, Esq., mentioning that Mrs. Whitman, who, as I am informed, has a husband in New York, and is desirous of going

to him in the flag now in Newport, bound there, and that you are unwilling to grant a permit for that purpose, unless I will recommend it; and as the Assembly lately enacted that permissions of a similar nature might be granted to sundry persons, do therefore recommend to you that she be permitted to go to New York in the same flag with those allowed by the Assembly, and under the same restrictions.

With much respect and esteem, I am yours, &c.,

W. GREENE.

To the Honorable Major General Heath.

*Gen. Greene to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Camp at Tappan, October 2d, 1780.

Dear Sir:—The late falling off of General Arnold, will doubtless be a subject of much speculation; and as it is probable there will be many stories fabricated foreign from truth and the facts, I do myself the honor to give you a short account of the matter, until a more perfect one is published by authority.

On his first arrival at camp this summer, he intimated to the general his wish to have the command of the forts and fortifications on the Highlands. His Excellency readily agreed to the proposition, both from a persuasion that he would defend the place to the last, as well as from a desire to gratify an unfortunate officer, who had become a cripple in the service of his country.

On his first taking command, as has since been discovered, he opened a commercial connection with New York. This was carried on under the plausible pretext of obtaining intelligence. His real intentions being thus masked, he opened a correspondence with Major John Andre, the British adjutant general, under the feigned name of Mr. John Anderson, merchant, New York. Several letters passed between Arnold and him; Arnold signing himself by the name of Gustavus; and Major Andre by the name of Anderson.

On the 19th of last month Major Andre came up in the Vulture sloop-of-war, near to King's Ferry; and found means by certain signals before agreed on, to let one Joseph Smith, who was to be the go-between, Arnold and Andre, know that he was there; and Smith immediately communicated the intelligence to Arnold, who came down and had an interview with Andre that evening, upon the Haverstraw mountains. Andre went up to Smith's house; and was there concealed two days. He got a pass from Arnold, shifted his clothes, and set off for New York by the way of Crompond and the White Plains; at the last of which place, he was made prisoner by three militia men, who deserve immortal honor for their fidelity to their country, as they nobly resisted every bribe that he offered them; many of which were very flattering to their private fortunes.

The militia men immediately examined Andre from head to foot; and found in the foot of his stocking sundry papers in General Arnold's own hand writing, giving an account of the works at West Point, the strength of the garrison, returns of all the ordnance and stores; and a general state of the army of the United States; where and how employed; which had been stated some little time before, to the general officers in a council of war, for the purpose of fixing our future plan of operations.

These papers convinced the militia men there must be treachery somewhere; and without loss of time, conveyed Andre to Col. Sheldon's regiment of light horse; which lay about eight miles from the place where they took the prisoner.

Major Jameson, who commanded, forwarded the papers, with an account of Andre's capture, who then went by the name of John Anderson, to General Washington, who was on his return from Hartford, from the interview with the French officers.

Unfortunately, the express missed the general, and did not overtake him until some hours after his arrival at West Point. From which place Arnold made his escape about

a quarter of an hour before the general's arrival. Had the express fell in with the general on the road, Arnold would have been happily secured; or if Major Jameson, from a false notion of duty, and from an apprehension that it was criminal to suspect even with the evidence in his own hands, such a character as Arnold, had not written to Arnold two days after he sent off the first letter to General Washington, that he was possessed of a person by the name of Anderson; which was the first hint he had had of the matter; and on the receipt of which, he rose (being then at breakfast), and just told his wife that he had received two letters which obliged him to leave her and his country forever; and immediately left her, and went on board his barge, and rowed down the river; and got on board the Vulture sloop-of-war, then laying a little below King's Ferry.

On the general's arrival at the Point, Arnold was gone; but nobody knew where nor suspected for what. Some hours after the general's arrival, the dispatches came, which unravelled the whole mystery. One of the general's aids flew to King's Ferry, to intercept the barge; but she had gone by about an hour and-a-half before.

Thus did this greatest of all villains make his escape, by the most unfortunate delay of the general's dispatches; and thus did Major Andre by the most providential train of accidents, fall into our hands; and bring about a discovery of this hellish plot. Andre is to be hanged to-day; the gallows is erected in full view of the place where I am writing.

Nothing can equal Arnold's villainy, but his meanness. He is the blackest of all mortals, and the meanest of all creatures. His robbery and plunder of the public stores at West Point, exceeds all belief. Nor could I have persuaded myself that it was possible for any thing short of the devil incarnate to perpetrate such horrid crimes, and complicated acts of rascality.

This event convinces me of the force of Spectator's observation; which is, that he that don't make principle the rule of his conduct in every thing, is not to be trusted in any thing. This is the first considerable wound that the cause of America has met with from a desertion; and what makes it more disgraceful, is, that he is an American.

Since the fall of Lucifer, nothing has equalled the fall of Arnold. His military reputation in Europe and America, was flattering to the vanity of the first general of the age. He will now sink as low as he has been high before; and as the devil made war upon heaven after his fall, so I expect Arnold will upon America. Should he ever fall into our hands, he will be a sweet sacrifice.

I beg my kind compliments to Mrs. Greene and the gentlemen and ladies of your family.  
I have the honor to be, with great respect,  
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

N. GREENE.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

P. S. I have been obliged to write in haste (Capt. Tew being polite enough to wait for the letter); if there are any inaccuracies beg you'll excuse them.

### *Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

Headquarters, near Passaic, |  
October 18th, 1780. }

Sir:—In obedience to the orders of Congress, I have the honor to transmit Your Excellency the present state of the troops of your line, by which you will perceive how few men you will have left after the 1st of January next.

When I inform you also that the troops of the other lines will be in general as much reduced as yours, you will be able to judge how exceedingly weak the army will be at

that period, and how essential it is the states should make the most vigorous exertions to re-place the discharged men as early as possible.

Congress are now preparing a plan for a new establishment of their army, which when finished, they will transmit to the several states, with requisitions for their respective quotas. I have no doubt it will be a primary object with them to have the levies for the war; and this appears to me a point so interesting to our independence that I cannot forbear entering into the motives which ought to determine the states without hesitation or alternative, to take their measures decisively for that object.

I am religiously persuaded that the duration of the war, and the greatest part of the misfortunes and perplexities we have hitherto experienced, are chiefly to be attributed to the system of temporary enlistments. Had we in the commencement raised an army for the war, such as was within the reach of the abilities of these states to raise and maintain, we should not have suffered those military checks which have so frequently shaken our cause; nor should we have incurred such enormous expenditures as have destroyed our paper currency, and with it the public credit.

A moderate, compact force, on a permanent establishment, capable of acquiring the discipline essential to military operations, would have been able to make head against the enemy without comparison, better than the throngs of militia, which at certain periods have been, not in the field, but in their way to and from the field; for from that want of perseverance which characterizes all militia, and of that coercion which cannot be exercised upon them, it has always been found impracticable to detain the greatest part of them in service even for the term for which they have been called out; and this has been commonly so short, that we have had a great proportion of the time two sets of men to feed and pay; one coming to the army, and the other going from it. From this circumstance, and from the extraordinary waste and consumption of provisions, stores, camp equipage, arms, clothes and every other article incident to irregular troops, it is easy to conceive what an immense increase of public expense has been produced from the source of which I am speaking. I might add the diminution of our agriculture by calling off at critical seasons, the laborers employed in it, as has happened in instances without number.

In the enumeration of articles wasted, I mention clothes. It may be objected that the terms of engagement of the levies do not include this; but if we want service from the men, particularly in the cold season, we are obliged to supply them, notwithstanding; and they leave us before the clothes are half worn out.

But there are evils still more striking, that have befallen us. The intervals between the dismission of one army, and the collection of another, have more than once threatened us with ruin; which, humanly speaking, nothing but the supineness or folly of the enemy could have saved us from. How did our cause totter at the close of '76, when, with a little more than two thousand men, we were driven before the enemy through Jersey, obliged to take post on the other side of the Delaware, to make a show of covering Philadelphia; while in reality nothing was more easy to them, with a little enterprise and industry, than to make their passage good to that city, and dissipate the remaining force which still kept alive our expiring opposition!

What hindered them from dispersing our little army, and giving a fatal blow to our affairs, during all the subsequent winter, instead of remaining in a state of torpid inactivity, and permitting us to hover about their quarters, when we had scarcely troops sufficient to mount the ordinary guards? After having lost two battles and Philadelphia, in the following campaign, for want of those numbers and that degree of discipline, which we might have acquired by a permanent force in the first instance, in what a cruel and perilous situation did we again find ourselves in the winter of '77, at the Valley Forge, within a day's march of the enemy, with little more than a third of their strength, unable to defend our position, or retreat from it, for want of the means of transportation?

What but the fluctuation of our army enabled the enemy to detach so boldly to the southward, in '78 and '79, to take possession of two states, Georgia and South Carolina, while we were obliged here to be idle spectators of their weakness, set at defiance by a garrison of six thousand regular troops, accessible every where by a bridge which nature had formed; but of which we were unable to take advantage, from still greater weakness, apprehensive even for our own safety?

How did the same garrison insult the main army of these states the ensuing spring, and threaten the destruction of all our baggage and stores,—saved by a good countenance, more than an ability to defend them?

And what will be our situation this winter? our army by the 1st of January diminished to little more than a sufficient garrison for West Point, the enemy at full liberty to ravage the country wherever they please; and leaving a handful of men at New York to undertake expeditions for the reduction of other states, which for want of adequate means of defence, will, it is much to be dreaded, add to the number of their conquests and to the examples of our want of energy and wisdom?

The loss of Canada to the Union, and the fate of the brave Montgomery, compelled to a vast attempt by the immediate prospect of being left without troops, might be enumerated in the catalogue of evils that have sprung from this fruitful source.

We not only incur these dangers and suffer these losses, for want of a constant force equal to our exigencies; but while we labor under this impediment, it is impossible there can ever be any order or economy, or system in our finances. If we meet with any severe blows, the great exertions which the moment requires to stop the progress of the misfortune, oblige us to depart from general principles to run into any expense, or to adopt any expedient, however injurious, on a large scale, to procure the force and means which the present exigency demands. Every thing is thrown into confusion; and the measures taken to remedy *this* immediate evil, perpetuates others. The same is the case if particular conjuncions invite us to offensive operations; we find ourselves unprepared, without troops, without magazines, and with little time to provide them. We are obliged to force our resources by the most burthensome methods to answer the end; and after all, it is but half answered. The design is announced by the occasional effort, and the enemy have it in their power to counteract or elude the blow. The prices of every thing, men, provisions, &c., are raised to a height to which the revenues of no government, much less ours, would suffice. It is impossible that people can endure the excessive burthens of bounties for annual drafts, and substitutes, increasing at every new experiment. Whatever it might cost them once for all to procure men for the war, would be a cheap bargain.

I am convinced our system of temporary enlistments, has prolonged the war, and encouraged the enemy to persevere. Baffled while we had an army in the field, they have been constantly looking forward to the period of its reduction, as the period to our opposition and the season of their successes. They have flattered themselves with more than the event has justified; for they believed when one army expired, we should not be able to raise another; undeeceived, however, in this expectation by experience, they still remain convinced—and to me evidently on good grounds, that we must ultimately sink under a system, which increases our expense beyond calculation, enfeebles all our measures, affords the most inviting opportunities to the enemy, and wearis and disgusts the people. This has doubtless had great influence in preventing their coming to terms, and will continue to operate in the same way. The debates on the ministerial side have frequently manifested the operation of this motive; and it must in the nature of things, have had great weight.

The interposition of neutral powers may lead to a negotiation this winter. Nothing will tend so much to make the Court of London reasonable, as the prospect of a permanent army in this country, and a spirit of exertion to support it.

It is time we should get rid of an error which the experience of all mankind has ex-

ploded; and which our own experience has dearly taught us to reject;—the carrying on a war with militia, or (which is nearly the same thing,) temporary levies, against a regular, permanent and disciplined force. The idea is chimerical; and that we have so long persisted in it, is a reflection on the judgment of a nation so enlightened as we are, as well as a strong proof of the empire of prejudice over reason. If we continue in the infatuation, we shall deserve to lose the object we are contending for.

America has been almost amused out of her liberties—we have frequently heard the behaviour of the militia extolled upon one and another occasion—by men who judge only from the surface; by men who had particular views in misrepresenting—by visionary men, whose credulity easily swallows every vague story in support of a favorite hypothesis.

I solemnly declare I never was witness to a single instance that can countenance an opinion of militia or raw troops being fit for the real business of fighting. I have found them useful as light parties to skirmish in the woods, but incapable of making or sustaining a serious attack. This firmness is only acquired by habits of discipline and service. I mean not to detract from the merit of the militia—their zeal and spirit upon a variety of occasions, have entitled them to the highest applause; but it is of the greatest importance we should learn to estimate them rightfully. We may expect every thing from ours, that militia is capable of; but we must not expect from any levies for which regulars alone are fit.

The late battle of Camden is a melancholy comment upon this doctrine. The militia fled at the first fire, and left the Continental troops surrounded on every side, and over-powered by numbers, to combat for safety instead of victory. The enemy themselves have witnessed to their valor.

An ill effect of short enlistments, which I have not yet taken notice of, is that the constant fluctuation of their men, is one of the sources of disgust to the officers. Just when, by great trouble, fatigue and vexation (with which the training of the recruits is attended), they have brought their men to some kind of order, they have the mortification to see them go home, and to know that the drudgery is to re-commence the next campaign. In regiments so constituted, an officer has neither satisfaction nor credit in his command.

Every motive which can arise from a consideration of our circumstances, either in a domestic or foreign point of view, calls upon us to abandon temporary expedients, and substitute something durable, systematic and substantial. This applies as well to our civil administration as to our military establishment. It is as necessary to give Congress, the common head, sufficient power to direct the common forces, as it is to raise an army for the war. I should go out of my province to expatiate on civil affairs; but I cannot forbear adding a few more remarks.

Our finances are in an alarming state of derangement. Public credit is almost arrived at its last stage. The people begin to be dissatisfied with the feeble mode of conducting the war, and with the ineffectual burdens imposed upon them; which, though light in comparison with what other nations feel, are from their novelty, heavy to them. They lose their confidence in government apace.

The army is not only dwindling into nothing; but the discontent of the officers as well as the men, have matured to a degree that threatens but too general a renunciation of the service at the end of the campaign. Since January last, we have had registered at headquarters more than one hundred and sixty resignations, besides a number of others, that never were regularly reported. I speak of the army in this quarter. We have frequently in the course of the campaign experienced an extremity of want. Our officers are indecently defective in clothing. Our men are almost naked; totally unprepared for the inclemency of the approaching season. We have no magazines for the winter. The mode of procuring our supplies is precarious; and all the reports of the officers employed in collecting them, are gloomy.

These circumstances conspire to show the necessity of immediately adopting a plan that will give more energy to government; more vigor and more satisfaction to the army. Without it, we have every thing to fear. I am persuaded of the sufficiency of our resources, if properly directed.

Should the requisitions of Congress, by any accident not arrive before the legislature is about to rise, I beg to recommend that a plan be devised which is likely to be effectual, for raising the men that will be required for the war, leaving it to the executive to apply it to the quota which Congress will fix. I flatter myself, however, the requisitions will arrive in time.

The present crisis of our affairs appears to me so serious, as to call upon me, as a good citizen, to give my sentiments freely, for the safety of the republic. I hope the motive will excuse the liberty I have taken.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect and esteem,  
Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly, for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Providence, on the fourth Monday in October, 1780.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. William West, Deputy Governor.

Whereas, Lieut. Col. Samuel Ward presented unto this Assembly two promissory notes, of £15, in specie each, which he received in behalf of this state, in consideration of the discharge of two soldiers of Col. Christopher Greene's regiment, who were engaged for the term of six months,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the conduct of the said Samuel Ward, in discharging the said soldiers be, and the same is hereby, approved; that the said notes be lodged in the general treasury; and that the general treasurer be directed to call on the payers of the said notes respectively, for payment, as soon as the same shall become payable.

It is voted and resolved, that Lieut. Col. Samuel Ward be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw £800, in Continental bills of the old emissions, out of the general treasury, to enable the surgeon of Col. Christopher Greene's regiment, to

purchase medicines and necessaries for the sick of the said regiment; and that the said Samuel Ward account for the same

Whereas, the committee, which was heretofore appointed to ascertain the number of boats belonging to the inhabitants of this state, which were employed in the public service, and were lost or damaged, have been prevented from attending to the business of their appointment; and whereas, great injury will arise to the inhabitants of this state, unless some remedy be provided in this behalf,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Messrs. Theodore Foster, William Ladd and John Child be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee for that purpose; that the said committee make inquiry into the number of boats which have been lost, and the damages which have been done to others, while in the public service, and for which the owners of the same have not been paid; and that they report the same, together with their value, and the names of their owners, to this Assembly, as soon as may be.

Whereas, in the act of this Assembly, made and passed at the session in October, A. D. 1779, entitled "An act for confiscating the estates of certain persons therein described," no mention is made of the widows of such absentees who have died since the act of forfeiture, or shall hereafter die, by them committed, or of others described in the said act guilty of the crimes therein described.

And whereas, some doubts have arisen, whether the widows aforesaid, are by law entitled to their dower, out of the estates of such persons deceased as aforesaid,—

Be it therefore enacted and declared by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted and declared, that the widows of all persons that already are, or hereafter shall be, deemed guilty of the crimes mentioned in the act aforesaid, are, and shall be, taken and deemed to be forever barred and excluded from any claim of dower unto the estates aforesaid.

Whereas, the farm lying in Little Compton, belonging to Mr. Joseph Scott, of Newport, heretofore sequestered to the

use of this state, has since been restored and delivered up to the said Joseph Scott.

And whereas, the said estate, while in the possession of this state, was leased by the state, and two years' rents therefor have been paid into the general treasury,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the rents which have been received on the leases for the years 1777 and 1778, and paid into the general treasury as aforesaid, be paid to the said Joseph Scott, and Leonard Jarvis, Esq., of Boston, or either of them; and that the lease of the said estate, for the last year, be assigned over to the said Joseph Scott and Leonard Jarvis, or either of them; they, or either of them, first paying the expense attending the leasing of the said estate, since it has been in the possession of this state.

Whereas, this General Assembly have received very credible information, that Mr. George Howell, who was recognized at the last session, to appear at the present session of this Assembly, and answer such charges as should be exhibited against him, is an emissary of the enemy,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Providence be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed immediately to take into his custody the said Geo. Howell, and him safely keep till the further order of this Assembly.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the said sheriff, William Channing, Stephen Potter and Archibald Crary, Esqs., be, and they or either of them, are hereby empowered and directed forthwith to proceed to the lodgings and store of the said George Howell, or any where else where his papers or property may be, and take the same into their possession; that the papers be immediately brought before this Assembly for examination; that the property be delivered to the sheriff; and that he keep the same till the further order of this Assembly.

Whereas, it is represented to this Assembly, by the owners of the armed private ship Flora, now in the harbor of East

Greenwich, that they intend sending the said ship on a cruise against the enemies of the United States; but that, from the scarcity of provisions in this state, it will be utterly impossible for them to victual her, unless they have permission to purchase provisions in some other state,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to the governor and council of the state of Connecticut, to permit Archibald Crary, Esq., one of the said owners, to purchase in the said state a quantity of provisions sufficient to victual the said ship for a six months' cruise, and to bring the same into this state, either by land or water, as shall be most convenient.

Whereas, Col. John Cooke hath represented unto this Assembly, that he has a quantity of corn ready to be delivered to the state, on account of rent due on the lease of the said estate, on the island of Prudence, late belonging to Joseph Wanton, Esq.; and whereas, the army is in want of bread,—

It is voted and resolved, that Solomon Southwick, Esq., D. C. G. I., be, and he is hereby, directed to receive the said corn; that he receive such a proportion thereof, if new, as will make it equal to merchantable corn; and that the same be charged against the United States, as part of this state's quota of supplies.

Whereas, the act of this Assembly passed at the session in June last, suspending the act of this Assembly, entitled, "An act making the paper money bills emitted by Congress, and the bills emitted by this state a legal tender in discharge of all debts and securities," has expired; and whereas, great mischief may ensue, unless some remedy be provided,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said act, entitled, as aforesaid, be, and the same is hereby, further suspended until the rising of this Assembly at the next session; and whereas, by a resolve of Congress, of the 20th day of March last, it is recommended to the states to revise their laws, enacted pursuant to a former resolution of Congress

making the Continental bills a tender in discharge of debts and contracts, and to amend the same in such manner as to them shall appear to be most conducive to justice, in the present state of the currency,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Christopher Ellery, Theodore Foster, Rowse J. Helme, John Jenckes, Wm. Channing, Archibald Crary and Joseph Coggeshall, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to revise the act of this state, suspended as aforesaid; and to ascertain the gradual depreciation of the bills of credit, emitted by Congress or this state, in order that a scale of depreciation may be adopted, which shall determine the value of contracts, both public and private, which have been made since the circulation of the bills aforesaid.

Whereas, the committee appointed at the last session of this Assembly, to ascertain the deficiencies of the several towns, in their respective quotas of the six months' men, have been prevented from attending the said business, and making report at the present session of this Assembly, agreeably to their appointment,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said committee be, and the same is hereby, continued for the purpose aforesaid; and that they report to this Assembly, at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the officers in the line of the militia of this state, who were on duty in the late general alarm, be allowed the same pay and rations which are allowed by Congress to the officers of equal rank in the line of the Continental army; that the non-commissioned officers and privates be allowed three shillings per day for each and every day's service; and one shilling and sixpence for each ration due to them, while doing duty in the said alarm; that the officers and privates in the companies of light horse, who were on duty at the said time, be allowed three shillings per day for their horses; that the abstracts be made up accordingly; and that the same shall be paid in

Continental bills of the new emission, as soon as this state's quota or any part thereof, shall come to hand.

Whereas, the forming of one company of horse to each battalion of infantry in this state, is found inexpedient and burthensome to the service,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that so much of the militia act passed at the session in October, A. D. 1779, as respects the formation of companies of horse, be, and the same is hereby, repealed; that all companies of horse, formed agreeably to the said act, be, and they are hereby, reduced; and that the commandants of each battalion of infantry be empowered and directed to cause six troopers and one sergeant of horse to be properly equipped for the purposes of riding express, and acting as infantry in case of necessity.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. George Olney be, and he is hereby, appointed to post up the accounts of this state against the United States, and to keep a general state of the accounts of this state; that he be furnished with a room, fire and candles, at the expense of the state; and be allowed nine shillings per day, in specie, or other money equivalent.

It is voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to the deputies of the several towns, to assist the persons appointed in their respective towns, by a resolve of the council war, of the 4th instant, to procure blankets and stockings for the use of Col. Israel Angell's regiment; that the blankets and stockings which shall be collected in the counties of Kings and Kent, be delivered at East Greenwich; and those collected in the other counties, at Providence, to such persons as the agent-clothier shall appoint to receive the same; and that the said agent-clothier be, and he is hereby, directed to send the said blankets and stockings to the said regiment as soon as he shall receive the same.

Whereas, Thomas Arnold, late captain in Colonel Christo-

pher Greene's regiment, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that he now belongs to the corps of invalids, at Boston; and that he has not drawn any clothing from this state for more than a year past; and thereupon prayed for relief; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier in this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to the said Thomas Arnold the same articles of clothing as are allowed to officers of his rank in the Continental army.

Whereas, it appears to this Assembly, that Christ'r Ellery, Esq., has advanced, at the request of Maj. Gen. Heath, eight hundred Continental dollars to Mr. James Dean, who lately conducted a party of the Oneida Indians, on a visit to the French general and admiral, at Newport; and that he has received an order to the amount of the sum advanced; as aforesaid, on Philip Schuyler, Esq., who is empowered and directed to defray the expenses of the said Indians,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Christopher Ellery be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the said sum of \$800, out of the general treasury, on his endorsing the said order to the general treasurer of this state.

Whereas, Ezekiel Cooke, of Bristol, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that on the 19th day of December, A. D. 1776, he was honored by Congress with a commission in Colonel Livingston's regiment, which was raised and officered at large, without being considered as belonging to any particular state; that he continued in the said regiment till April 6, A. D. 1780, when the said regiment was reduced; that being unwilling to receive the public's money, without rendering them service, he then resigned his commission; that he has received no other compensation for his services than the nominal sum of his wages in the paper currency; that in the returns of the army, he has been credited to this state, and that he is entitled by a resolve of Congress to have the depreciation of his wages made good to him; and thereupon prayed for relief,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said petition be received; and that Theodore Foster and John Child, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to make inquiry into the facts set forth therein, and make report thereof to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, by reason of the islands of Rhode Island and Jamestown having been heretofore in the possession of the enemy, a greater part of the inhabitants thereof have not subscribed the test, whereby they are disqualified from serving as jurors; and whereas, the superior court of judicature, &c., which was held at Newport, on the third Monday of September, A. D. 1780, could not proceed on the business pending before the said court for the want of a sufficient number of legal jurors, and did adjourn to the second Monday of November next,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that the town of Tiverton draw four grand and five petit jurors; and the town of Little Compton draw four grand and four petit jurors, to attend the said court at the said adjournment; that the said jurors be drawn agreeably to law; that the persons who shall be so drawn, as also the persons who were heretofore drawn by the towns as jurors to attend the said court, be legally notified to attend the said court at the said adjournment, and be subject to the same penalty for non-attendance, as is by law prescribed; and that each of the jurors to be drawn agreeably to this act, be allowed sixty Continental dollars, of the old emissions, for each day's attendance on the said court.

Ordered, that a copy hereof be transmitted to the town clerks of the towns of Tiverton and Little Compton, and the clerk of the said court for the county of Newport.

It is voted and resolved, that the Honorable William Bradford, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed a commissioner in behalf of this state, to meet at Hartford, in the state of Connecticut, on the second Monday in November

next, such commissioners as may be appointed by the other states, to advise and consult upon measures for filling up their quotas of men and provisions for the army ; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to inform His Excellency the governor of Massachusetts, of this resolution.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that Beriah Allen, of the island of Prudence, has taken two boats belonging to the United States, from the care of Mr. —— Manchester, and Mr. Ephraim Congdon, living on the said island, and has destroyed the same, for fuel,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Beriah Allen be cited by the sheriff of the county of Newport to appear at the next session of this Assembly, to answer the same ; and that the secretary cause a citation to be issued accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that all fines, fees and forfeitures, be, and they are hereby, raised eighty fold, to what they were on the 19th day of April, A. D. 1774.

Whereas, Jabez Hatch, Esq., deputy quartermaster general, has represented to this Assembly, that it will contribute to the public service, to have an assistant quartermaster appointed within this state ; and has requested that a person may be nominated and approved of by this Assembly for such an appointment,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Benjamin Bourne, Esq., be, and he is hereby, recommended to the said Jabez Hatch, for an appointment as assistant quartermaster, within this state.

It is voted and resolved, that James M. Varnum, Esq., a delegate of this state, proceed to Congress as soon as conveniently may be, to relieve Ezekiel Cornell, Esq., in representing this state ; that £12,000, in Continental bills of the old emissions, be advanced to him out of the general treasury ; and that he account for the same.

Whereas, Ezekiel Cornell, Esq., has permission to return

from Congress; to enable him to defray his expenses at and from Philadelphia,—

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of £6,000, in Continental bills, of the old emissions, be allowed him out of the general treasury; that he account for the same; and that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to send forward the said sum; as also the sum heretofore ordered to the said Ezekiel Cornell, by the first safe conveyance.

Whereas, the committee, who were appointed to revise the general estimate, have been prevented from making report to this Assembly at the present session,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said committee be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to proceed in and complete the business of their appointment; and that they make report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee for revising the estimate be, and they are hereby, severally empowered to draw £500, in Continental bills of the old emissions, out of the general treasury; and that they account for the same.

Whereas, James Lovett, Esq., who was employed by the council of war, to purchase wood for the army, has represented to this Assembly that it is impossible for him to procure boats to transport the said wood from Providence to Rhode Island,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said James Lovett, in case he cannot agree with the owners of any boats or vessels for the transportation of the said wood, be, and hereby is, empowered to impress such boats or vessels, for the purpose aforesaid; and that he pay the owners of the same a reasonable consideration therefor.

It is voted and resolved, that Caleb Harris, Esq., who is employed by the committee for making sale of certain confiscated estates, as a surveyor, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of £900, in Continental bills of the

old emissions, out of the general treasury, to defray his expenses; and that he account for the same.

Whereas, there is a quantity of iron, and eight gun carriages, saved from the wrecks belonging to this state, which the committee, heretofore appointed to make sale of the said wrecks have not yet disposed of,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to sell the said iron and carriages at public vendue; and that he pay the money arising from the said sale, in the general treasury.

Whereas, in the late alarm, the military force of this state was called into the field, and detained for a number of days, whereby the brigade reviews, which take place in the course of the next month, will become distressing to the inhabitants,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said military force be, and the same is hereby, excused from the said reviews; and that they do not assemble on the respective days by law ordered, at their respective parades or alarm-posts; and that this resolve be published in the next newspapers of this state.

Whereas, this Assembly did, at the session held in September last, appoint William Richmond, John Jenckes, John Northup, William Bradford and Thomas Holden, Esqs., a committee to sell certain farms or tracts of land belonging to this state, therein specified; and whereas, John Northup, Esq., has declined accepting of the said appointment,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Rowse J. Helme, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed in the stead and place of the said John Northup.

And whereas, in and by the act aforesaid, the said committee are in the conditions of the sale to specify the second payment, being three-eighths of the purchase money, to be made on the 15th day of December next,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said committee give and allow one month from the time of sale, to the purchaser or purchasers, for making the second payment.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the committee aforesaid, or the major part of them, be, and they are hereby, empowered in behalf this state, upon the estates aforesaid, or any one of them, being put up for sale, and no persons appearing to purchase the same, at or near what the said committee, or the major part of them, shall adjudge to be their worth or value, that they, or the major part of them bid them off, to and for the use of this state.

Ordered, that this resolve, excepting the last clause, giving instructions to the committee, be published in the Newport and Providence newspapers.

An Act for raising two hundred and twenty effective men, for three years or during the war, to complete the quota of this state, of the army proposed to be raised by Congress, for the defence of the United States.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

It is voted and resolved, that Charles Holden, Esq., commissary of purchases in this state, be, and he is hereby, directed as soon as may be, to purchase this state's quota of beef for the army, as heretofore directed, and deliver the same to the issuing commissary; that thereupon he proceed immediately to make further purchases of beef and pork, to the amount of five hundred barrels; that he cause the same to be salted and stored; and that he apply to the issuing commissary for salt and casks, who is hereby directed to furnish him with such a quantity of salt as may be necessary, out of the salt lately delivered him on the account of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that writs to the Newport inferior court, November term, A. D. 1780, may be served at any time within ten days; and declarations filed eight days before the sitting of the said court.

Voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Solomon Southwick, deputy commissary general of issues, for supplies for	
Major General Heath's family .....	1,455 08 00
Charles Holden, purchasing commissary, due to Col. Greene's regiment ..	324 01 11
William Channing and Rowse J. Helme, for signing certificates for com-	
missary of purchases .....	180 00 00
George Irish, due him for scythes, tackling, etc., for the use of the state ..	136 00 00
Rufus Sprague, for going to North Kingstown, by order of the Governor..	60 14 00
William Barker, for expenses of man and horse, furnished by him to go ex-	
press to John Sayles.....	36 00 00
Paul Coffin, for attendance on superior court, Tiverton .....	60 00 00
Gideon Mumford, for postage of divers public letters .....	29 09 07
Esek Aldrich, for entertaining the Oneida Indians, \$1,736,	
Silas Casey, for rent of his house in Newport, for the poor .....	158 00 00
Benjamin Bourne, for paper, and attendance on the General Assembly, as	
clerk .....	222 10 00
John Jenckes, for expenses in selling the state's farms .....	900 00 00
William Compton, for attendance on the General Assembly .....	168 18 00
Daniel Branch, for his attendance as waiter on the General Assembly, etc.	189 00 00
Benjamin F. Carlile, "                  "                  "                  "	105 00 00

God save the United States of America.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly, for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at East Greenwich, on the last Monday in November, 1780.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. William West, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that each and every soldier who enlisted into the Continental service in the new levies, to serve for six months, who passed muster, and hath or shall receive his discharge from the said service, be, and he is hereby, entitled to receive forty Continental dollars out of the general treasury, in lieu of one pair of stockings, which was promised him upon his enlistment.

It is voted and resolved, that the commanding officer of the new levies, who were raised to serve for six months,

and whose times expire on the 1st day of January next, be, and he is hereby, required and directed to discharge them on the last day of this month.

Whereas, the Most Honorable the Continental Congress have recommended to the United States, that Thursday, the 7th day of December next, be observed as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said day be, and is hereby, ordered to be observed as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer throughout this state; that the people assemble on that day to celebrate the praises of our Divine Benefactor; and that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to issue his proclamation for the observation of the said day, agreeably to the said recommendation of Congress.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee heretofore appointed by this Assembly to dispose of the real estates which have been confiscated to and for the use of this state, be, and they are hereby, empowered to sell and dispose of the same, either at public or private sale, as will be most advantageous to the public interest; and that they make such alterations in the times of the respective payments, as will most conduce to the disposing of the said lands at the best rates.

Provided, the alteration of the times of payment do not prevent the raising a sufficient sum to redeem this state's money, funded upon the said estates, agreeably to the act of this Assembly emitting the same.

It is voted and resolved, that £720, lawful money, in Continental bills of the old emissions, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury to Mr. Robert Currie; it being the amount of an account by him charged against the United States, for carrying Colonel Josiah Brewer, six Oneida Indians, and their interpreter, in the stage coach to Boston.

It is voted and resolved, that £10 2s. 6d., lawful money, in bills emitted by this state, funded upon real estates, be

allowed and paid out of the general treasury to Mr. Elijah Shepardson ; it being the amount of an account by him charged against the United States, for taking charge of the prison-ship, from August 2, to September 17, A. D. 1780.

It is voted and resolved, that Thomas Holden, Esq., one of the committee for selling the confiscated estates, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw four thousand Continental dollars, of the old emissions, out of the general treasury, towards defraying his expenses in the said service ; and that he account for the same in the settlement of his account.

It is voted and resolved, that Welcome Arnold, John Jenckes and Thomas Holden, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inspect into the public letters and papers laid before this Assembly ; and that they make report, as soon as may be, of those which immediately call for the attention of this Assembly, with their opinion thereon.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. William Morris, Preston Man and Jeremiah F. Jenkins, now in confinement, in Providence jail, together with Samuel Pitcher, keeper of said jail, be brought by the sheriff of the county of Providence, before this Assembly, as soon as may be, for examination.

Whereas, at the time the enemy took possession of the island of Rhode Island, in December, 1776, the justices of the inferior court of common pleas, for the county of Newport, left divers judgments of the said court incomplete, and it is necessary that the said judgments should be entered and completed, and that the executions issue accordingly,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the present justices of the said court convene at some suitable time, and complete the said judgments as fully and amply as though the said judgments had been entered at the usual time.

Provided, nevertheless, that in case any action of trespass or trover went by default, the said court do not complete the judgment thereon until the last Monday in March next; nor then, if the defendant in any such action shall file an

answer thereto in the clerk's office of the court, on or before the third Monday in March next, which they are empowered to do; in which case, such cause shall be heard at the next inferior court of common pleas, to be holden in the said county on the last Monday in next.

Ordered, that this act be published, immediately after the rising of this Assembly, in the Newport and Providence newspapers.

It is voted and resolved, that the justices of the superior court of judicature, &c., who are now in the town of East Greenwich, or who shall be present, take the examination of Messrs. William Morris, Preston Man, Jeremiah F. Jenkins and Nathaniel Gardner, who are now in custody, upon suspicion of being concerned in inimical measures to this and the United States; that they investigate the said affair in such a manner that this Assembly may receive the greatest light with regard to in the several transactions, and report the same as soon as may be; and that the said justices be immediately acquainted with this resolution.

It is voted and resolved, that William Ellery, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw twenty thousand Continental dollars, of the old emissions, out of the general treasury, in part of his account as one of the delegates of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the secretary be, and he is hereby, directed to take into his possession all the books and files of papers of the council of war, and that he lodge the same in his office.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. John Weeden be, and he is hereby, appointed one of the committee for settling the accounts of the persons appointed to collect blankets for the troops, in the place of Esek Hopkins, Esq., who declines serving.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Benjamin Peckham and Stephen Potter be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to adjust and settle the accounts of the committee who revised the last estimate; and that they be allow-

ed £30, Continental money, of the old emissions, per day, for their services, exclusive of their expenses.

Whereas, the following report and account were presented unto this Assembly, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly,  
relative to the new emission of £20,000.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed by the General Assembly to sign the remaining part of the bills of the new emission, in June last, having completed the same, beg leave to report, that the whole of the said emission of £20,000, hath by the committee been paid into the general treasury, as per the receipts from the general treasurer, herewith presented, will appear; and the same is duly registered.

METCALF BOWLER,

CALEB HARRIS,

ADAM COMSTOCK,

In behalf of the committee.

East Greenwich, Nov. 29, 1780.

1780.	State of Rhode Island, &c. to Metcalf Bowler,	Dr. £ s. d.
	To two reams of paper, purchased of Capt. Potter, for striking the money, at £110.....	220 00 0
	" half a ream supplied by myself .....	55 00 0
	" three quires supplied by the printer.....	81 10 0
	" my service in engaging the printers, in procuring the paper for printing the money, and receiving the escutcheons of the gen- eral treasurer.....	30 00 0
Nov. 29.	" my service in numbering and signing two thousand bills over my proportion, which remained unsigned, and were signed by me at the request of the speaker of the lower house.....	90 00 0
		<hr/> £426 10 0
	Creditor.	
	By an order on the general treasurer, at July session, to purchase paper, \$600 .....	180 00 0
	" balance due.....	246 10 0
		<hr/> £426 10 0

And the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby accepted; that the said account be allowed; and the said balance of £246 10s., lawful money, be paid unto the said Metcalf Bowler, in Continental bills of the old emissions, out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Charles Holden, Esq., com-  
missary of purchases, be, and he is hereby, directed to re-

ceive of Solomon Southwick, Esq., commissary of issues, and of Caleb Gardner, Esq., commissary of hides and tallow, all the raw and untanned hides and tallow in their hands belonging to the state, which they have received for the monthly supplies of the Continental troops; that he immediately dispose of all the raw and untanned hides upon the best terms he can, for tanned and curried leather, suitable for good shoes, in due proportion, or for good shoes ready made, which he is to have nailed with not less than thirty-two nails to each shoe; that he keep the tallow until the further orders of this Assembly; and that he make report thereof as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that Caleb Gardner, Esq., commissary of hides and tallow within this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to Colonel Israel Angell, or to his order, twenty-three pair of boots and forty-six pair of shoes, for the use of the officers of his regiment.

It is voted and resolved, that £997, in Continental money, of the old emissions, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, to Pardon Gray, Esq.; it being the balance reported to be due by the committee appointed to audit his account, exhibited as one of the committee for revising the estimate.

It is voted and resolved, that £259 4s., in Continental money, of the old emissions, be allowed and paid to Pardon Gray, Esq., out of the general treasury; it being the amount of an account by him presented, for eight pair of thread stockings delivered John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier.

It is voted and resolved, that the act of this Assembly, passed at the session in March last, ordering two thousand Continental dollars, to be paid out of the general treasury, to Pardon Gray, Esq., to procure stockings, be, and the same is hereby, repealed; and that the said sum be not paid to him.

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing, Job Easton and William Taggart, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to take into consideration the

damage that hath been sustained by Messrs. Royzel Smith, James Bliven and Job Watson, tenants to the state, of certain farms upon Jamestown, by removing their stock from the said island, upon an expected invasion of the enemy; that they make such allowances as they shall judge to be equitable; that the said committee also consider the waste committed (if any) by the said tenants upon the said farms; and that they make report as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Joseph Brown and Welcome Arnold be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inspect into the beef which Charles Holden, Esq., commissary of purchases, and is salting for the use of this state.

Whereas, from the rapid depreciation of the paper currency of the United States, and from the strict justice which this General Assembly is willing and resolved to do unto the officers and soldiers engaged in the Continental service in the pay of this state, during the war, if it became necessary, that a committee should be appointed in order to ascertain the respective balances, which were owing and due unto the said officers and soldiers, according to the value of the going currency, at the several periods it became due and was actually paid, and the real value of wages in arrear, according to the different prices of gold and silver.

And whereas, the said committee have some time past made report, that very considerable sums of money, in gold and silver, are due on the respective balances to the said officers and soldiers, which from the inability of this state have as yet remained unpaid; and the exertions heretofore made by this state, in order to recompense the officers and soldiers for the good services they have performed, have fallen greatly short of the sums which the said committee have reported to be due unto them; and this Assembly being absolutely determined that all the arrearages due unto the said officers and soldiers, upon account of the depreciation as aforesaid, until the 1st day of August last past, shall

be immediately settled; and that for the future the said officers and soldiers shall be duly paid, agreeably to the stipulations entered into,—

Do resolve, and it is voted and resolved, that a tax or rate for the sum of £6,000, lawful money, to be paid in gold and silver, according to the value thereof, as expressed in an act of this Assembly, passed in June, A. D. 1763, ascertaining and declaring the lawful money of this state, shall be assessed and levied upon the estates and polls of the inhabitants of this state, by one other act of this Assembly, and be applied to and for the use of discharging one-quarter part of the wages due unto the said officers and soldiers, agreeably to the sums owing unto them respectively, by reason of the depreciation of the currency as aforesaid, until the 1st day of August last past, and for no other use or purpose whatever.

And it is further voted and resolved, that for the securing and paying unto the officers and soldiers aforesaid, the other three-quarter parts of the money due unto them, for and upon account of the depreciation as aforesaid, the following farms and tracts of land, which have been confiscated to and for the use of the state, or such parts thereof as will be sufficient for that purpose, shall be set off, and delivered unto the said officers and soldiers, in full compensation for the respective sums due unto them for depreciation as aforesaid, to wit:

The farm which was late Thomas Hutchinson's, Esq., containing about six hundred and four acres.

The farm late Charles Ward Apthorp's, containing about three hundred and sixty acres, lying upon the island of Jamestown.

The farm late Isaac Royal's, containing about three hundred and seventy acres, lying in Bristol; together with such houses and lots as have been confiscated, as the committee hereinafter appointed shall think most proper to be appropriated for the purpose aforesaid.

And, by agreement mutually entered into between this

Assembly and the committee appointed by the said battalions to adjust the depreciation of their wages,—

It is further voted and resolved, that a committee, consisting of John Jenckes, William Richmond, William Taggart and Elisha Mowry, Esqs., as well in behalf of this state as the officers and soldiers aforesaid, shall appraise and value the lands and premises aforesaid, or such part thereof as will be sufficient to discharge the said debt, at the full worth; which said lands and premises so appraised, are to remain to and for the use of the said officers and soldiers, in fee simple; and if the aforesaid committee, or the major part of them, cannot agree with respect to the real worth and value of the lands aforesaid, that Mr. Matthew Manchester, of Cranston, shall be, and he is hereby, added unto the said committee, in order to determine upon the lands aforesaid.

And it is further voted and resolved, that John Northup, Esek Hopkins and Benjamin Bourne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee, to ascertain and settle the depreciation of the wages of the officers and soldiers, from the last settlement made, up to the 1st day of August past; and that they consider the officers and soldiers of Colonel Sherburne's regiment, belonging to this state, and ascertain the depreciation due unto them for so long time as they were in actual service, or the regiment reduced; any act to the contrary, in any wise notwithstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that Metcalf Bowler, Archibald Crary and Caleb Harris, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to audit the accounts of the persons who were employed in purchasing provisions and forage during the time of the late alarm, when the whole of the militia of this state was called forth; that the commissary of purchases of this state, by an advertisement in the newspapers, call upon all such persons to settle their accounts with him; that the said committee allow no pay to those persons who were excused from doing military duty,

while the said militia were in the field ; that they consider the allowances to be made while they were in service, after the said militia were discharged ; that the expenses which were actually paid, be allowed ; and that the said committee adjust their accounts for their services and expenses at the next session of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that £1,000, in Continental money, of the old emissions, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, to Mr. Daniel Austin ; it being for the damage done his house by this state's troops.

It is voted and resolved, that John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clother, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw £20,000, in Continental money, of the old emissions, out of the general treasury, to purchase clothing for the troops ; and that he account for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that ten thousand Continental dollars, of the old emissions, be advanced and paid out of the general treasury to Benjamin Bourne, Esq., deputy quartermaster general, to enable him to transport clothing, &c., to the headquarters of the army ; and that he re-pay the same into the general treasury, as soon as he shall be enabled.

It is voted and resolved, that James Lovett, Esq., quartermaster general of the militia of this state, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw £30,000, in Continental money, of the old emissions, out of the general treasury, to enable him to discharge the debts he has contracted in that department ; and that he pay off the debts he has contracted in silver or gold, or in this state's bills of the new emission, at the exchange of seventy-two for one.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to pay off the certificates given by the clerks of the superior court of judicature, &c., to the justices of the said court, for their attendance upon the same, at and after the rate of seventy-two Continental dollars, of the old emissions, for each dollar allowed them by a former act of this Assembly.

The following report was made unto this Assembly, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly, relative to the revision and amendment of the late estimate of the Ratable Property within the State.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee, to revise and amend the late estimate of the ratable property within this state, taken by a former committee, by virtue of an act of this Assembly passed at the session in October, A. D. 1778, do report:

That after viewing all the towns, and examining the rolls with great care and precision, and obtaining the best information we possibly could of the quantity of land contained in each town, and the value thereof, we have made out a roll, which is herewith presented, which we hope will meet the approbation of Your Honors, and give satisfaction to the state, at large.

All which is humbly submitted, by your obedient servants,

WILLIAM TAGGART,	ABEL TANNER,
PARDON GRAY,	BENJAMIN TILLINGHAST,
ESEK HOPKINS,	BENJAMIN BOURNE,
RICHARD STEERE,	THOMAS ALLIN.

November, 30, 1780.

The following is the estimate presented with the foregoing report, to wit:

COUNTIES.	TOWNS.	Number of acres.	Price per acre.	Value of real estate	Total value of each town.	Total value of each county.
Newport.	Tiverton .....	17,300 1-2	£ s. d. 5 11 01	96,107 10 0	110,473 08 9	198,956 04 9
	Little Compton ..	11,094 1-2	7 00 00	77,661 10 0	88,482 16 0	
Providence.	Providence .....	2,056	70 10 06	145,000 00 0	233,075 13 0	1,094,027 14 0
	Smithfield .....	35,236	5 10 00	153,798 00 0	212,569 01 0	
	Scituate .....	55,230	2 16 08	156,657 00 0	174,701 15 6	
	Glocester .....	59,935	2 05 00	134,967 15 6	152,882 15 6	
	Cumberland .....	16,227	4 16 00	77,885 12 0	88,823 03 0	
	Cranston .....	18,056	6 00 00	108,336 00 0	126,241 11 0	
	Johnston .....	12,860	4 05 00	54,655 00 0	61,928 17 0	
	North Providence	7,072	5 06 07	37,785 00 0	43,864 18 0	
Kings.	Westerly .....	16,252 3-4	5 05 07	85,797 00 0	97,779 15 0	930,311 02 6
	North Kingstown	22,197	5 05 05	120,159 00 0	153,124 19 9	
	South Kingstown	45,355	6 07 00	294,354 04 9	341,872 04 9	
	Charlestown .....	15,201 1-2	5 00 00	76,077 10 0	86,050 05 6	
	Exeter .....	31,070 3-4	2 16 00	86,998 02 0	102,143 11 6	
	Richmond .....	22,372	2 12 06	58,674 00 0	67,357 16 0	
	Hopkinton .....	23,636	3 00 00	71,088 00 0	81,982 10 0	
Bristol.	Bristol .....	6,227 1-4	9 03 00	55,977 01 0	64,529 00 0	133,496 05 0
	Warren .....	2,693	10 15 00	28,949 15 0	39,051 12 0	
	Barrington .....	4,121	6 03 00	25,344 03 0	29,915 13 0	
Kent.	Warwick .....	25,383	6 02 11 1-4	155,896 10 9	178,436 09 9	431,354 03 9
	East Greenwich ..	9,474	7 12 07	72,278 14 6	87,232 14 0	
	West Greenwich ..	27,000	2 05 00	60,500 00 0	69,913 00 0	
	Coventry .....	30,302 1-2	2 13 00	80,540 07 6	95,772 00 0	
						2,788,145 10 0

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing and George Irish, Esqs., and Mr. John Weeden, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to take into consideration

the estimate made in the year 1767, the estimate reported by the late committee of five, and the report of the committee upon the revisal thereof, together with such other papers lying before this Assembly as will serve to show the value of the towns upon the main; and that they, as soon as may be, report, according to the best of their judgments, what the value of each respective town aforesaid, ought to be estimated at, that a proper proportion for taxation may be struck to the said towns.

The petition of William Corey, of North Kingstown, preferred unto this Assembly, representing that he is confined to his farm in the said town, by an order of this Assembly, passed at the session in February last; and that his said farm lies in four lots, at some distance from each other, which renders his said confinement very disadvantageous to himself and others; and praying that he may be liberated therefrom, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said William Corey be, and he is hereby, permitted to go to and from his said four lots, in the direct and usual ways of passing to and from the same to his dwelling-house.

It is voted and resolved, that Richard Fry, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to receive of Mr. Michael Dawley the mutton of fourteen sheep, in lieu of so much beef, in part of the rent of the state's farm, late belonging to Samuel Boone.

It is voted and resolved, that the act of this Assembly passed at the session in September last, allowing the assistants £18, old Continental currency, per day, and declaring the same to be an adequate allowance, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. George Olney be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw three thousand Continental dollars, of the old emissions, out of the general treasury; and that he account for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Job Pearce, of East Greenwich, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw

£1,000, in Continental money, of the old emissions, out of the general treasury, for the use of Edward Peirce, a wounded soldier, agreeably to the report of the committee appointed to ascertain the allowance to be made him.

Whereas, the purchasers of the wrecks, &c., in the harbor of Newport, have represented to this Assembly, that some of the people belonging to the squadron commanded by the Honorable the Chevalier de Ternay, have been, and are still, fishing up the anchors, cables, &c., belonging to the said wrecks; and prayed this Assembly to request His Excellency the Governor to write to the said Chevalier de Ternay, setting forth the sale of the said wrecks, &c., to them, by this state; and entreat him to prevent the same in future, and restore unto the purchasers the anchors already weighed, upon their paying a proper allowance therefor,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to write to the said Chevalier de Ternay upon the subject aforesaid.

Upon the petition of the town council of the town of Newport,—

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that whenever any tavern keeper, innholder, common victualler or retailer, shall be found to give a false account of any brandy, rum, or other distilled spirits, or wine, remaining by him at the time of his being licensed, or bought, distilled or taken in for sale after being licensed, or shall refuse to give an account of the same on oath, as by law required, the collectors of excise for the towns of Newport and Middletown, severally be, and they are hereby, fully authorized and empowered to prosecute such offender to a special court of general sessions of the peace, to be called for that purpose by the said collectors severally, in like manner as special courts of common pleas are called by sheriffs and vendue-masters; which court so specially called, is hereby empowered to hear and determine in all causes between the collectors of excise for

the said towns respectively, and any delinquent tavern keeper, innholder, common victualler or retailer, in as full and ample manner as they might at their regular terms by law prescribed, and to execute such their judgments accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that the report of the auditor, upon the account of Dr. Peter Turner, presented unto this Assembly, amounting to £600, in Continental money, of the old emissions, for medicines and refreshments provided by him for the sick of Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment, that the same is balanced, be, and the same is hereby, accepted; and that the same stand balanced accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that the commissary of purchases in this state, be, and he is hereby, empowered to receive of the committees of the towns of Westerly, Richmond and Hopkinton, the beef which is still deficient from the said towns, and which was proportioned unto them, by an act of this Assembly, for three months; and that he pay for the same in certificates, at the rate of fifty shillings per hundred weight.

Whereas, Mr. Thomas Allin, hath represented unto this Assembly, that seven persons enlisted into the service of this state for three months for the town of Barrington's proportion, as allotted them by an act of this Assembly, passed at the second session in July last; and that the said town hath not received the bounty of £7 10s., lawful money, for each of the said recruits,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that upon the said Thomas Allin's, or any other person's, in behalf of the said town of Barrington, producing unto the secretary of this state the enlistments of the said persons, or a certificate from the muster-master that they were mustered for the said town, the secretary shall give an order upon the general treasurer for the sum of £52 10s., in this state's bills of the new emission; or in Continental bills of the old emissions, at seventy-two for one, who shall pay the same, accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins, Esq., be, and he is hereby, fully empowered to draw an order on the general treasury, in favor of Lieutenant John Wells, for seven guns and accoutrements which were lost in the expedition upon Rhode Island, in the year 1778, at and after the rate of \$7, in specie, for each gun, bayonet and cartouch box, upon the said John Wells producing the names of the persons to whom the same belonged, and proof of their property.

Whereas, the laws of this state, for amending and repairing the public roads and highways, are ineffectual to all the purposes intended, as there is no provision therein made for procuring timber and other materials for the constructing and repairing bridges where they are necessary,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that when and so often as it shall be necessary to erect or repair a bridge or bridges, for the convenience of passing in the public roads or highways of any town in this state, the surveyor or surveyors, in whose district the said bridge or bridges to be erected or repaired, shall be, be and they are hereby, empowered to call in to his or their assistance two substantial freeholders of his or their district, and by and with their advice to cause so much timber or other materials to be cut and carried off from the lot or lots of timber or wood-land, within such district, as shall be sufficient for the said purposes; having due regard to the cutting the same in such places and in such proportions, as shall in their opinion do the least injury and waste on the respective lands whence the same shall be so taken.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that in case the said surveyor or surveyors cannot agree with the owner or owners of the timber or other materials, he or they, together with the persons called in to his or their assistance, as aforesaid, shall make a just and true appraisal of the value of the timber, or other materials taken and applied as aforesaid, certifying the name or names of the real

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or supposed owner or owners of the said lot or lots under their hands; which certificate and appraisal, the said surveyor or surveyors shall lodge in the town clerk's office of such town, that the owner or owners of such lands may receive the amount of such appraisal out of the treasury of such town.

Whereas, there is due unto Mr. Timothy Peckham, collector of taxes for the town of South Kingstown, two taxes assessed upon the Point Farm (so called), lying in said town; one for Continental money, and the other for this state's money, of the new emission, together with the fees for collecting the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that upon the said Timothy Peckham's producing unto the general treasurer the rate bills for the said taxes, with the vote of the said town, stating the fees for collecting the same, the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to allow the said taxes and fees to the said Timothy Peckham, as so much money paid into the general treasury, in part of the said town's proportion.

Whereas, notwithstanding the resolve of Congress, allowing appeals from the courts in the respective states in prize causes to Congress, divers of the United States do not allow of appeals from their own courts; and as those states which allow of appeals from their own courts, are not upon an equal footing with those which disallow such appeals,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that in all prize causes, where any person belonging to such state disallowing appeals as aforesaid, shall be dissatisfied with the judgment given in the court of admiralty in this state, he may be allowed an appeal to the superior court of judicature in this state; which court is hereby empowered to take cognizance thereof, enter up judgment thereon, and to issue execution accordingly; and that the judgment of such superior court be final.

Provided, nevertheless, that the operation of this act shall

cease, with respect to the inhabitants of any state, whenever such state shall repeal the laws disallowing appeals to Congress in prize causes.

Whereas, William Channing and George Irish, Esqs., and Mr. John Weeden, presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit :

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly,  
to take an estimate of the towns on the main in this  
state.*

The subscribers having, agreeably to their appointment, taken into consideration the estimate made in the year 1767, the estimate reported by the late committee of five, and the report of the committee of ten upon the revisal thereof, have thereupon formed the following estimate of the value of the several towns upon the main within this state, to wit:

COUNTIES.	TOWNS.	Value of each town.	Value of each county.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Newport .....	Tiverton .....	111,272 18 09	{ 199,355 14 09
	Little Compton .....	88,072 16 00	
Providence. ....	Providence.....	229,375 13 00	
	Smithfield .....	207,809 01 00	
	Scituate .....	189,543 14 06	
	Glocester .....	167,024 14 06	
	Cumberland.....	90,823 03 00	1,119,895 03 00
	Cranston .....	125,249 11 00	
	Johnston.....	64,204 07 00	
	North Providence .....	45,364 19 00	
Kings.....	Westerly .....	97,843 05 00	
	North Kingstown .....	148,124 19 09	
	South Kingstown .....	312,172 04 09	
	Charlestown .....	80,627 18 06	900,270 14 10
	Exeter .....	103,875 16 10	
	Richmond .....	71,278 08 00	
	Hopkinton .....	86,348 02 00	
Bristol.....	Bristol .....	64,529 00 00	{ 133,496 05 00
	Warren.....	39,051 12 00	
	Barrington .....	29,915 13 00	
Kent.....	Warwick .....	176,961 10 00	
	East Greenwich .....	80,325 11 00	
	West Greenwich .....	75,860 10 05	435,127 12 05
	Coventry .....	101,980 01 00	
			2,788,145 10 00

Which is humbly submitted, by—

WILLIAM CHANNING,

GEORGE IRISH,

JOHN WEEDEN,

Committee.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby, accepted; and that in all taxes or rates, which shall in future be assessed upon the said towns upon the main, the said proportion shall be a rule and guide for assessing the same upon the said towns respectively.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Stanton, Jr., and Caleb Harris, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to audit the accounts of the persons who last procured blankets for the state; and that the same be done in the time of the session.

It is voted and resolved, that twenty days, from and after the rising of this Assembly, be, and hereby is, allowed unto each town within this state, for paying into the general treasury the deficiencies of the taxes assessed upon them; and that in case any town shall neglect to pay in its full quota by the said time, the general treasurer be, and is hereby, directed to issue his warrant for levying the same.

Upon the petition of Samuel Thurston, of Newport, presented unto this Assembly, praying that a judgment obtained by the attorney general against him, at the superior court held in Newport, on the second Monday in November, A. D. 1780, for £355 3s. 1d, sterling money, of Great Britain, with costs, as being the property of Stephen Deblois, of said Newport, whose estate has been confiscated to and for the use of this state, may be set aside, &c.—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be received; and that all proceedings against the said Samuel Thurston, respecting the subject matter thereof, be stayed and suspended until the further orders of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that John Beverly, Esq., sheriff of the county of Providence, forthwith remove Samuel Pitcher, the keeper of the jail in the said county, from the said trust; and that he appoint some person as keeper of the said jail, in whose fidelity confidence may be reposed.

It is voted and resolved, that the lists of the ratable es-

tates given in by individuals in the several towns, be lodged, together with the rolls, in the offices of the respective town clerks.

It is voted and resolved, that Henry Ward, Esq., secretary of this state, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw twenty thousand Continental dollars, of the old emissions, out of the general treasury, towards discharging his account against the state; and that he account for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that £2 1s. 4d., in specie; and £150, in Continental money, of the old emissions, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury to Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq., it being for the balance of an account by him charged against the state, for articles furnished for the entertainment, ordered to be made by this Assembly, for the officers of the army and fleet of His Most Christian Majesty, agreeably to the report of the committee who audited the same.

An Act ascertaining the depreciation of the bills of public credit, and fixing the value of private contracts, in Spanish milled dollars, since the same have been in circulation as a currency, and repealing the laws, heretofore passed, for making said bills a tender in all payments.

Whereas, at the commencement of the present war, before the full organization of the internal police of the respective governments, when moneys for procuring supplies could not be furnished by taxation, the Congress of the United States of America, and the legislature of this state, issued bills of public credit, which circulated as money, and were necessarily increased to a quantity greater than was proper for a medium of trade; and from the redundancy thereof, by general consent, have gradually depreciated, and are now of much less value than when first issued, so that it is manifestly unjust that a nominal sum thereof should now discharge a debt of the same sum, contracted when money was of much greater value; and it hath become necessary, that justice may be done to debtors and creditors in this state, that a scale of depreciation should be formed as near as possible to the real depreciation, from time to time.

And whereas, by a resolution of Congress, of the 20th of March last, it is recommended to the several states to revise their laws, enacted pursuant to a former resolution of Congress, making the Continental bills of credit a tender in discharge of debts and contracts, and to amend the same in such manner as they shall judge most conducive to justice, in the present state of the currency,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that all contracts between individuals, made before the 1st day of January, A. D. 1777, for lawful money, or bills of credit of this state, or Continental bills of credit, shall be deemed equal to the same nominal sum in gold or silver; that all contracts made since the said 1st day of January, A. D. 1777, to the time of passing this act, expressed or understood to be for the common currency of the United States, or of this state,

shall be rated in Spanish milled dollars, or other money equivalent thereto, agreeably to the following table, exhibiting the value of one hundred Spanish milled dollars, in Continental bills of credit, at the several times therein expressed, to wit:

*Scale of Depreciation of Continental Bills of Credit.*

	Spanish milled dollars.	Dolls. Paper Currency.
A. D. 1777. January 1.	100.....	equal to .....
" " February	" .....	" .....
" " March	" .....	" .....
" " April	" .....	" .....
" " May	" .....	" .....
" " June	" .....	" .....
" " July	" .....	" .....
" " August	" .....	" .....
" " September	" .....	" .....
" " October	" .....	" .....
" " November	" .....	" .....
" " December	" .....	" .....
A. D. 1778. January ..	" .....	" .....
" " February ..	" .....	" .....
" " March ..	" .....	" .....
" " April ..	" .....	" .....
" " May ..	" .....	" .....
" " June ..	" .....	" .....
" " July ..	" .....	" .....
" " August ..	" .....	" .....
" " September ..	" .....	" .....
" " October ..	" .....	" .....
" " November ..	" .....	" .....
" " December ..	" .....	" .....
A. D. 1779. January ..	" .....	" .....
" " February ..	" .....	" .....
" " March ..	" .....	" .....
" " April ..	" .....	" .....
" " May ..	" .....	" .....
" " June ..	" .....	" .....
" " July ..	" .....	" .....
" " August ..	" .....	" .....
" " September ..	" .....	" .....
" " October ..	" .....	" .....
" " November ..	" .....	" .....
" " December ..	" .....	" .....
A. D. 1780. January ..	" .....	" .....
" " February ..	" .....	" .....
" " March ..	" .....	" .....
" " April ..	" .....	" .....

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all private contracts made before the 1st day of May, A. D. 1775; and all special contracts made for silver or gold after that time, between individuals, shall be paid in gold or silver only; that all other private contracts, made since the said 1st day of January, A. D. 1777, may be discharged by paying the just value of the currency contracted for, as ascertained by this act, in silver or gold, or in bills of credit of the United States, at the current exchange at the time of payment; that the aforesaid scale be the rule, in all courts of law, for settling the rate of depreciation in all contracts as aforesaid; and that judgments be entered up accordingly.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that in all cases where executors, administrators, guardians, agents, clerks of the courts, those who have received moneys in trust, or have received the bills of credit aforesaid, in their aforesaid capacities, for others, upon payment of the same moneys, or on the assignment of such securities as they have taken for the same; or such other bills of credit as they may, for the benefit of those for whom they have acted, have exchanged for the bills they have received as aforesaid, be discharged of any demands of those for whom they have so acted, without any depreciation being allowed thereon. And on such bills of credit, or securities, being produced before the town councils, or in any court of law, by any agent or person who hath received money for others in trust, and ready to be delivered or assigned over as aforesaid, on any action brought against such person, he shall be discharged of so much as he shall deliver in, or assign over, without depreciation allowed in such cases.

Provided nevertheless, that if it shall appear that such executor, administrator, guardian, agent or clerk, shall have made use of said bills on his own private account, in such cases, such executors, administrators, guardians, agent or clerk, shall account therefor upon the principles of justice and equity, in the same manner as other persons by this act are obliged to account.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the calculation of the foregoing scale shall be considered as having reference to the first day of each month respectively. And the bills of credit aforesaid, shall be considered as having depreciated in regular and equal degrees, from the first day of each month.

And whereas, sundry persons, disaffected to the United States, and others, destitute of a proper regard for the general good; and others, for different reasons, have declined or utterly refused taking the bills of credit aforesaid, for their debts, notwithstanding legal tenders or offers of payment have been made for discharging the same, whereby debtors in many cases may be subjected to great injustice, if no provision be made for their relief,—

Be it therefore further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that where any person hath made a legal tender of, or offered to pay, bills of credit of this or the United States, for the discharge of any debt, and the creditor hath refused to receive the same, and shall hereafter bring his action for said debt, or in case of mortgage, a bill shall be brought for redemption; in all such cases, the court before which such cause shall be pending, shall direct the same to be heard, and finally determined, by reference thereof to indifferent persons, mutually chosen by the parties. And in case they, or their attorneys, shall neglect or refuse to appoint such referees, the said court is authorized to appoint three indifferent persons, who shall hear and finally determine such cause, as to them shall appear just and equitable, taking into consideration all the circumstances thereof.

And as the widow, the infant, and the orphan, at all times ought, in an especial manner, to receive the support of the laws, in the protection of their persons and property,—

It is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the refusal of any executor, administrator, guardian or agent, who hath acted for and in behalf of such widow, infant, or orphan, to receive the said bills of credit, due in their said capacities, shall not operate to the prejudice of any such widow, infant or orphan; but they shall be allowed the whole depreciation on such debt notwithstanding.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all payments which have been made towards the discharge of any debt, and which have been by the creditors acknowledged, either by endorsement, receipt, or discharge in writing, on account of the sum so paid, shall be reckoned to the credit of the debtor, as so much paid in discharge of the same, where there hath been between creditor and debtor no agreement

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to the contrary, without any deduction from the sum paid, in consideration of the depreciation of money.

And whereas, in some instances, since the said 1st day of January, A. D. 1777, accounts and book debts may have been charged at the rate of the real value in gold or silver, without taking into consideration any depreciation,—

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that where any dispute shall arise between debtor and creditor, with respect to any such accounts, or book debts, all suits arising on such disputes and contentions, shall be determined by referees, chosen and appointed as afore directed, with regard to tenders of money, as aforesaid; but that in all suits brought for the recovery of accounts or book debts, contracted since the said 1st day of January, A. D. 1777, where it is not alleged that such accounts or book debts were charged at the rate of the real value in gold or silver, all such accounts or book debts shall be discharged agreeably to the scale of depreciation in this act established.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all acts and clauses of acts of this state, heretofore passed, making the said bills of credit a tender in payment of debts and contracts, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

And it is ordered, that this act be published in the several newspapers of this state; and that the secretary transmit copies thereof to the governors and speakers of the states of Massachusetts and Connecticut, to entitle creditors in this state to equal justice, agreeably to the acts of the legislatures of those states.

It is voted and resolved, that a tax or rate of £10,000, lawful money, to be paid in gold or silver, be assessed and levied upon the estates and polls within the respective towns of this state, for the payment of the bounties of the soldiers now ordered to be raised, in addition to the tax of £6,000; to be paid in gold or silver, to discharge the debts due to the officers and soldiers of this state's Continental battalions, on account of the depreciation of their wages; and that the committee appointed to draught the bill, include both taxes in one bill.

It is voted and resolved, that £180, in Continental money, of the old emissions, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, to John I. Clarke and Jonathan Arnold, Esqs., it being the amount of an account by them exhibited for issuing warrants to apprehend divers persons suspected of being concerned in effecting the escape of George Howell, &c.

It is voted and resolved, that the justices of the superior court be, and they are hereby, directed to proceed in the investigation of the escape of George Howell; and that

they deal with Nathaniel Gardner, Preston Man, William Morris, Jeremiah F. Jenkins and Samuel Pitcher, whom they have lately had under examination, as to law and justice shall appertain.

Whereas, the company of Kentish Guards preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that in July last the said company was ordered upon Jamestown, to remove stock from thence; that among others, they brought off one pair of oxen, which they found concealed upon the said island; and that they found their own provisions, while performing the said service; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to order the said oxen to be delivered to Colonel Richard Fry, for the use of said company, in lieu of their rations; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted; that the said Richard Fry be, and he is hereby, empowered to receive the cattle aforesaid, to and for the use of the said company, in lieu of their rations; that said company pay and discharge the account for keeping the said cattle, since their removal from Jamestown; and that the said Richard Fry take an exact account of the weight of the said beef, hides and tallow, and report the same to this Assembly.

The certificate of John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier in this state, presented unto this Assembly, certifying that on settlement of accounts with Captain John Garzia, paymaster to Colonel Robert Elliott's regiment, there is due to the officers of the said regiment the following articles, to wit:

Twelve dozen of coat buttons, forty-four dozen-and-a-half of vest buttons, one hundred and twelve skeines of thread, fourteen ounces of sewing silk, and three yards and-an-half of broadcloth; being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said John Reynolds be, and he is hereby, directed to discharge the said account, either by delivering to the said John Garzia the said articles, or paying him an equivalent in money.

It is voted and resolved, that the commissary of purchases

in this state be, and he is hereby, directed to make a true and exact account of the number of cattle purchased by him or his deputies, and the prices given for them, and to whom they were delivered; that he call upon the issuing commissaries to make a return to him of all the hides and tallow that have come into their hands, and the disposition that has been made of the same; and that he make report to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, George Irish, Stephen Potter and William Channing, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly, relative to the quantity of Beef purchased by the Purchasing Commissary.*

The subscribers, being appointed a committee to inquire into the quantity of beef purchased, the quantity which will be furnished in payment of the rent of the state's farms, and of the further quantity necessary to be purchased for supplying the quota of salted provisions required of this state by Congress, do report:

That from the best information we have been able to obtain, we find that six hundred barrels of beef have been already purchased by the purchasing commissary; that one hundred barrels will be furnished by the towns of Westerly, Richmond and Hopkinton agreeably to a resolution of this Assembly; that one hundred barrels may be expected in payment of the rents due for the state's farms; and that there will remain a deficiency of two hundred barrels of beef to complete this state's quota, which we recommend to be purchased by the commissary of purchases immediately; and that he give certificates in payment for the same, agreeably to a former act of this Assembly.

GEORGE IRISH,  
STEPHEN POTTER,  
WILLIAM CHANNING.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby, accepted and approved.

It is voted and resolved, that Colonel Christopher Greene be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw seventy thousand Continental dollars, of the old emissions, out of the general treasury, to purchase clothing for the officers of his regiment; and that the said sum be charged to the said officers, and deducted out of their depreciation money, for the first quarter part which shall become due.

It is voted and resolved, that Colonel Christopher Greene be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw fifty-five thousand three hundred and forty-four Continental dollars, of the old emissions, out of the general treasury; and that the same be appropriated to the payment of one month's wages of the non-commissioned officers and privates of his regiment.

It is voted and resolved, that Benjamin Bourne, Esq., deputy quartermaster general, within this state, be, and he is hereby, empowered (if necessary,) to draw nine thousand two hundred Continental dollars, of the old emissions, out of the general treasury, to defray the expense of transporting the baggage of Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment to West Point; and that he account for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that Caleb Arnold, Jr., and Samuel Littlefield, who were put under bonds by order of the council of war, as inimical persons to the United States, and who have since entered into the service, in Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment, and behaved well, be discharged from their bonds; and that the same be delivered up.

It is voted and resolved, that John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier of this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to send forward to Colonel Israel Angell's regiment, as soon as may be, the cloth and other articles ordered to be purchased for vests and overalls; and that he also forward, by the same conveyance, two hundred and sixty-three pair of stockings, and one hundred and thirty-seven blankets, for the use of the said regiment.

It is voted and resolved, that William Taggart, Joseph Stanton, Jr., Caleb Harris, John Child and Archibald Crary, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee, to make inquiry into the deficiencies of each and every town in this state, which hath had men proportioned unto it, to fill up the Continental or state battalions; that they also ascertain what money hath been received for that purpose, who received it, how it hath been appropriated, and what balances remain due to the state from the respective towns; that they make report to this Assembly as soon as

may be; and that a copy hereof be sent to the town clerks of the several towns within this state.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Joseph Brown, of Providence, be, and he is hereby, appointed to inspect all the beef and pork which the commissary of purchases shall salt for the use of this state; that he employ such a number of coopers as will be necessary for the said business; that upon his inspecting the said provisions, he cause each barrel which shall be approved by him to be branded upon the head with the letters S. R. P.; and that he employ a suitable person to see that the barrels are full weight, agreeably to the requisition of Congress.

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing, Esq., be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver unto Colonel Christopher Greene eighty silver dollars, out of the money which he hath received or shall receive for the rents of the confiscated estates in Newport; that the said Christopher Greene be, and he is hereby, requested to receive the same, and cause it to be sent by a flag from headquarters at West Point, to and for the use of Ensign Henry Shearman, a prisoner within the enemy's lines in New York, who is in a distressed situation; and that the same be charged to the said Henry Shearman.

It is voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to Benjamin Bourne, Esq., deputy quartermaster general, to repair the powder house, in the town of Providence, at the expense of the United States, in a suitable manner to receive the powder which may be stored therein.

An Act for granting and apportioning a tax of £16,000, in silver or gold; £6,000 thereof, to be appropriated towards paying the balances due to the regiments of Colonel Christopher Greene, Colonel Israel Angell and Colonel Henry Sherburne; and £10,000 to be appropriated to the raising of this state's quota of the Continental army.

[For this act, see printed Schedule.]

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that divers of the collectors of taxes, within the respective towns in this state, who have received from the committees for classing men, bills for collecting and paying unto the said committees the sums of money which have been assessed against the delinquents, have neglected to collect and pay the same,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the said committees, and those who shall hereafter be appointed in the respective towns in this state, be, and they are hereby, empowered and authorized to proceed against such delinquent collectors, in the same manner as the town treasurers in this state are empowered to proceed against the collectors who are deficient in paying town taxes.

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to make sale of the hull of a vessel lately belonging to Joseph Wanton, Jr., deceased, at public vendue; that he notify the time and place of sale in the Newport newspaper; and that he account for the proceeds thereof.

Whereas, a certain farm lying in South Kingstown, in the possession of Mr. Joseph Underwood; and also a certain lot of land lying in Tiverton, in the possession of Mr. Gilbert Devol, both belonging to Mr. Stephen Ayrault, were heretofore taken into possession of this state, and have been since leased,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the present leases of the said estates be assigned, by the committee appointed for that purpose, to the said Stephen Ayrault; and that the rents now due for the said estates be paid by the respective tenants, from whom the same are due, to the said Stephen Ayrault.

It is voted and resolved, that Archibald Crary, Esq., Hopkins Cooke, Esq., and Mr. Stephen Mumford be, and

they are hereby, appointed a committee to adjust the accounts of George Irish, Esq., with this state; and that they make report to this Assembly as soon as may be.

Whereas, Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment is ordered by His Excellency General Washington, to march out of this state, whereby the public stores at Providence will be left unguarded,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that John I. Clarke, Esq., Mr. Joseph Brown, and Welcome Arnold, Esq., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to procure a sufficient guard for the said stores; that the said guard be relieved by the new recruits, as fast as they shall be returned for duty; that they agree with the said guard on the best terms they can; that they draw the money for paying them, out of the general treasury, as the same shall become due weekly; and that they account for all the money by them so drawn.

An Act for filling up and completing this state's quota of the Continental army.

Whereas, for the support and continuance of the present just and necessary war, on the part of the United States of America, in order to insure to ourselves and posterity the blessings flowing from peace, liberty and independence, and to compel the enemy to agree to a just and an equitable accommodation, it is indispensably necessary that a regular, efficient and permanent force be immediately engaged in the public defence; and whereas, the number of three hundred and eight men, pursuant to a late resolve of Congress, has been apportioned to this state, as their quota of the new army to be raised; and His Excellency Gen. Washington hath called for the said men to take the field as soon as may be; therefore, in order as much as possible to co-operate with, and promote such measures as shall be durable and substantial, as recommended by Congress, and the commander-in-chief of the forces of the United States,—

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the au-

thority thereof it is enacted, that three hundred and eight able-bodied, effective men, including non-commissioned officers, being the quota of this state, as aforesaid, be forthwith raised within this state, to serve during the war, or three years; and that the whole number aforesaid, be apportioned to the several towns in this state, agreeably to a mean proportion between the ratable polls and the ratable estates, compared with the whole number of polls and the whole ratable property in the state, as follows, to wit:

[Here follows the act at length, for which see printed Schedules.]

Whereas, Messrs. John Weeden and Gideon Hoxsie presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly relative to amounts due for Blankets collected for the Troops.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee to ascertain the several sums due to the persons appointed by the General Assembly, to collect blankets for the troops raised for six months, beg leave to report the following sums to be due to the undernamed persons, to wit:

		£ s. d.
Esek Hopkins .....	North Providence .....	45 00 0
John Stafford.....	Warwick .....	90 00 0
Reuben Mason.....	Glocester.....	120 00 0
William Burlingame .....	Coventry .....	100 00 0
Elisha Mowry .....	Smithfield .....	120 00 0
Hezekiah Babcock .....	Hopkinton.....	183 00 0
Benjamin Tillinghast.....	West Greenwich .....	100 00 0
Daniel Rogers .....	Westerly .....	184 16 0
Thomas Allen .....	Barrington .....	79 16 0
Job Comstock .....	East Greenwich .....	50 00 0
George Wood .....	Little Compton.....	171 00 0
Rufus Sprague .....	Johnston .....	60 00 0
Nehemiah Knight.....	Cranston .....	80 00 0
Samuel Gorton .....	Exeter .....	100 00 0
Samuel Fowler .....	Newport.....	75 00 0
William Gardner .....	Charlestown .....	150 00 0
Richard Smith .....	Bristol .....	90 00 0
Gilbert Devol .....	Tiverton .....	130 00 0
Ebenezer Cole .....	Warren .....	64 16 0
Burrington Anthony .....	Portsmouth .....	80 00 0
Benjamin Underwood .....	Jamestown .....	30 00 0
		<hr/> £2,103 08 0

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And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; and the persons therein named, receive the several sums set against their names respectively out of the general treasury, in Continental bills of the old emissions.

Voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:—

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
William Richmond, on account of his expenses in selling confiscated estates	600 00 0
Caleb Harris, for services and expenses in surveying the state's farms in	
South Kingstown, Exeter, etc.....	590 03 0
Pardon Gray, for collecting the produce for the rents of the state's farm, and	
in selling the same .....	180 00 0
Pardon Gray and William Richmond, for services in inspecting rails, &c., be-	
longing to the Aquacut farm .....	90 00 0
Abel Tanner, for services in revising the estimate .....	885 11 0
William Taggart, for " " " .....	965 04 0
Beriah Brown, sheriff of Kings county, for services.....	409 04 0
Benjamin Tillinghast, for his services in revising the estimate.....	1,028 00 0
Henry Marchant, for assistance rendered the attorney general, in the prose-	
cution of divers offenders .....	2,000 00 0
Esek Hopkins, one of the committee who revised the estimate.....	903 02 0
Thomas Allin, " " " " .....	1,033 15 0
William Borden, for blankets furnished Colonel Angell's regiment .....	1,332 10 0
Preserved Pearce, for services rendered .....	50 00 0
Governor William Greene, for services and expenses of an express sent to	
Governor Trumbull .....	150 00 0
Richard Steere, for services as one of the committee who revised the esti-	
mates .....	203 10 0
Benjamin Bourne, for the same services .....	208 14 0
Thomas Tillinghast " " .....	236 06 0
Peter Phillips for warrants to apprehend divers persons by order of the	
council of war .....	51 04 0
Andrew Cain, for his wages as a soldier .....	360 00 0
John Pearce, for his abstract.....	242 11 0
Thomas Tillinghast, as one of the committee for revising the estimates....	230 06 0
Peter Turner, to provide necessities for Col. Christopher Greene's regiment	900 00 0
Walter Channing, clerk, for attendance on the superior court.....	382 00 0
Rufus Sprague, for going express to Boston, and other services rendered...	254 00 0
Samuel Pitcher, for maintaining John Cook, a poor prisoner.....	168 00 0
Andrew Boyd, clerk of Kent county court, for services .....	180 00 0
Ichabod Smith, jailor of Kent county, for maintaining a poor prisoner .....	60 00 0
William Arnold, for entertaining the committee appointed to take up disaf-	
fected persons .....	50 08 0
William Arnold, for use of room for committee on the estimates .....	162 00 0
Rowse J. Helme, for paper furnished the General Assembly .....	463 10 0

	£ s. d.
Mathew Manchester and Thomas Tillinghast, for services in removing dis- affected persons from the state.....	108 00 0
John Proud, for twelve chairs furnished for the state house, East Greenwich	345 12 0
Abraham Greene, for attendance as waiter on the General Assembly.....	240 00 0
Thomas Spencer,        "        "        "        " .....	240 00 0
Preserved Pearce, for time and expenses in searching for George Howell ...	386 04 0
Stephen Potter, for services as one of the committee for the removal of sus- pected persons .....	108 00 0
Hopkins Cooke, as auditor of accounts.....	210 00 0
William Bradford, for services, expenses, &c., in attending the convention at Hartford, eight thousand six hundred and fourteen Continental dol- lars; and £4, in silver.	

God save the United States of America.

*Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Morristown, June 3d, 1780.

Sir:—I beg leave to inform Your Excellency that it appears to me, the officers mentioned in the enclosed letter from Colonel Angell, are necessary; and if agreeable to Your Excellency and the Council, you will be pleased to transmit it to the honorable the board of war, that they may issue the commissions required.

I have the honor to be, with great respect and esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*The Committee of Congress to the Governor of Rhode  
Island.*

In Committee of Congress, }  
Morristown, June 12, 1780. }

Circular.] Sir:—We have the honor to enclose you a copy of a letter addressed to us by the commander-in-chief. The contents will advise you to what an alarming crisis our affairs are reduced.

The general observes with great propriety, that the committee “need no arguments to evince the danger.” Indeed we do not, our own observations have led to the fullest conviction, that unless the force stated in our second letter of the 25th ult., is drawn into the field with a celerity equal to the urgency of the occasion, the period which is to end our liberty, and commence the most disgraceful state of slavery which human nature has ever experienced, is not far distant. But dark and gloomy as the prospect is, America has it in her power to dispel the cloud, by those exertions of which she is abundantly capable, and to which it is her duty to rouse, from every consideration which can effect the human heart. We are most indubitably possessed of the means wherewith to expel the enemy from every part of the Continent; but it requires a display of that virtue which distinguished the citizens of Rome, when their country was, as ours now is, on the brink of ruin; and we trust Americans, impressed with a proper sense of the blessings of peace, liberty and independence, will follow the bright example, and evince to future ages what great minds are capable of, when driven to the extremity of distress.

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We dare not suppose, sir, that efficient measures have not been adopted by your state to complete your battalions, to the establishment recommended in the letter above referred to ; on the contrary, we believe that the men are raised, or raising ; but we have to conjure you to hasten them on to the army, without a moment's delay.

We entreat you, likewise to give the most pointed direction to induce an unremitting attention to forward the supplies allotted to your state, to be furnished as specified in our letter of the 2d instant.

Had the enemy on Wednesday last, pursued what we generally believed to be their object, our heavy cannon and stores would inevitably have fallen into their hands, as our military force was incompetent to their protection ; and the means of conveying to places more distant, for want of horses and carriages out of our power.

Since writing the above, a second letter from the general has been hauded us, a copy whereof we enclose. Previous to our recommendation to complete the battalions to five hundred and four, rank and file, we had a conference with the general on the subject, in which the matter was thoroughly canvassed, and the necessity of the augmentation clearly evinced.

The reduction of Charlestown, was then problematical, we had even hopes that it would have been saved, and the Maryland and Delaware lines have returned to this army ; which then with the quota requested of the states would have amounted to about twenty-five thousand men ; the number which Congress had promised our illustrious ally should be brought into the field to co-operate with his troops. It is now believed that Charlestown is reduced, and the troops which defended it, prisoners ; consequently we shall not have the Maryland and Delaware troops ; hence those in this quarter will be less by nearly three thousand men, than our estimate ; we therefore most earnestly entreat that no deduction may be made from the number we have stated as necessary.

We have the honor to be, with the greatest respect and esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient servants,

PH. SCHUYLER,

J. W. MATHEWS,

NATH'L PEABODY.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Providence, Jnne 16, 1780.

Sir :—I arrived at this place this afternoon, in consequence of orders lately received from His Excellency General Washington.

Had Your Excellency been within a moderate distance, I should have immediately waited on you, and paid my respects ; but being informed that you were with the Honorable the General Assembly, at Little Rest, and that you would probably be at your seat at Greenwich in a day or two, you will please to excuse my not waiting on you, until your return.

The principal objects of my orders are to be at hand when the expected fleet of our illustrious ally arrives at Rhode Island, and to assist in making some previous preparations. His Excellency General Washington, among other things, is pleased to express himself as follows : " I would wish you to endeavor in conjunction with the Governor, to establish a market between the fleet and army and country ; and be careful that our allies are not imposed upon in the prices of articles which they may find necessary. This is a point recommended in the plan drawn up by the ministry of France, and which policy and generosity direct should be strictly attended to."

Your Excellency and the Honorable the General Assembly are the most competent

as well as proper judges what measures the principles of generosity, policy and justice point out. I pray you be assured that no endeavors of mine shall be wanting on this occasion to promote the honor and interest of the United States in general, and of this state in particular.

With every sentiment of respect and esteem,

I have the honor to be Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Providence, June 18th, 1780.

Sir:—I was this morning honored with yours of yesterday. Please to accept my thanks for your kind congratulations and wishes that my command may be happy.

I am sorry to give Your Excellency or the Honorable the Assembly any interruption in your important deliberations; but from an anxiety that every preparation may be made for the reception of the sick of our illustrious ally, I am constrained to do it. Every exertion is in exercise to have the hospitals in readiness; but Doctor Craick informs me that it will be sometime before the buildings he is removing and repairing, will be completed. Should the fleet soon arrive, unless some other buildings are taken up as a reserve, on such an emergency, the sick will suffer, and the service receive injury. I find Dr. Craick has a high opinion of the accommodation and situation of the college in this town.

I find the inhabitants are much against that seminary's being taken as a hospital, or infectious diseases introduced among the inhabitants. Your Excellency is fully sensible of how much importance it is that hospitals should be provided, and at the same time that it should be effected in a manner if possible that will not excite an idea in the breasts of our allies, that there is not an hearty acquiescence in every measure adopted for their comfort and convenience. I have been informed that a committee has been appointed for the purpose of taking up buildings. Permit me to express a wish that every step may be taken without loss of time, which our allies can reasonably expect, or the honor of our country requires.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

P. S. I am not acquainted with the situation of the place where hospitals are now preparing. I am informed it has a fine, salubrious air; but from reports, am apprehensive that it may be annoyed by the enemy's shipping, if left unprotected, and a removal from the place easily prevented; but with this, you are best acquainted. W. H.

*General Washington to the Committee of Congress for Co-operation.*

Headquarters, Springfield, }  
June 19th, 1780. }

Gentlemen:—From the vast importance of the thing, I hoped I should have been informed before this, of the measures which the several states meant to adopt, in consequence of your late requisitions; but as I have not, I am certain you are unadvised yourselves, and have only to lament with you, the delay. This is a point of primary

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consequencee. We are now arrived at the period, when we may momently expect the fleet from France. For want of information, it has been impossible for me to digest a system of co-operation. I have no data on which to proceed; and of course, were the armament to come, I should find myself in the most delicate, embarrassing and cruel situation.

The French commanders, from the relation in which I stand, the instant they reach our coast, will look to me for a plan of the measures to be pursued, and I ought of right to have one prepared. But I cannot even give them any conjectures. The interest of the states, the reputation of their councils, the justice and gratitude due our allies, a regard for my own character, all demand that I should, without delay, be enabled to ascertain and inform them what we can or cannot undertake. Besides, there is a point now to be determined, on which the success of all our future operations may turn; which for want of knowing our prospects I am altogether at a loss what to do in.

To avoid involving the fleet and army of our allies in circumstances, which if not seconded by us, would expose them to material inconvenience and hazard, I shall be obliged to suspend a step, the delay of which may be fatal to our hopes.

I therefore beg leave to suggest to the committee, the indispensable necessity of writing again to the different states, urging them to give immediate and precise information of the measures they have taken, the success they have had, and the probable result of them.

I have the honor to be, with great respect and esteem, gentlemen,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honorable Committee of Co-operation.

*Com. De LaTouche to ——.*

Newport, on board the Hermoine, {  
June 22d, 1780.

Sir:—I take the liberty of addressing you on the subject of two commissions, which I would wish could be granted to Mons. Duberjur, merchant, at Rhode Island, for two armed vessels, now lying at Newport; one of them commanded by himself, and the other by le Sieur Stephen Mitchell; both of them to proceed immediately to sea, and cruise against the common enemy.

I could wish Your Excellency might not find any difficulty in granting Mons. Duberjur this favor, as I am fully sensible of his worth and merit.

I am, with sentiments of respect of esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

DE LATOUCHE,

Com'd La Frigate Hermoine.

N. B. Those two vessels are now ready for sea.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Providence, July 3d, 1780.

Sir:—Colonel Peck, the deputy adjutant general, will lay before Your Excellency a return of the recruits sent to this place from the different towns in this state. The men came to the rendezvous destitute of blankets, which prevents their being properly quartered or encamped, without greatly exposing their health. Men raised for the

short period of three months cannot be clothed or furnished with blankets from the Continental stores. The necessity of their being furnished, I am confident will induce the Honorable the Assembly to direct some mode for effecting it.

Monsieur de Corny, commissary of war to the French army, is in this town, at present, in a public house. The business of his office is of great variety and high importance, and cannot be discharged in his present lodgings without great inconvenience and interruption. He is exceedingly desirous to have quarters; the deputy quartermaster general cannot yet procure them. This is a matter in which the honor of our country and the comfort and convenience of our allies, are so much concerned, that I am constrained to request Your Excellency would be pleased to lay it before the Assembly, that such measures may be adopted as to them may appear expedient.

Monsieur de Corny has represented to me the present bad state of the ferry-ways, &c., at Bristol Ferry; a communication between this place and Rhode Island, which will be much used on the arrival of our allies, and has requested that the necessary repairs may be immediately made. I should have ordered the deputy quartermaster general to have attended to it without the least delay, but not fully knowing what regulation that ferry was under, and thinking it probable the Honorable the Assembly would choose themselves to direct the repairs and accommodations, I have deferred doing any thing on the premises until the Assembly convened. I request Your Excellency would be pleased to lay this matter also before the Assembly; if they should decline ordering the necessary repairs to be made, the deputy quartermaster general shall attend to it.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,  
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

### *General Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Providence, July 8th, 1780.

Sir:—On the 3d instant, I took the liberty to trouble Your Excellency with a representation and request of Monsieur de Corny, respecting Bristol Ferry. I few minutes since I received the enclosed from Monsieur de Corny.

It is my wish and intention to do every thing in my power for the promotion of the public service, the comfort and convenience of our allies. I am assured that such is the wish and intention of the Honorable the General Assembly. Unfortunately such is the present state of the quartermaster's department (entirely destitute of money), that it is not in my power to do that which in different circumstances should not be delayed. This induces me again to lay the situation of the ferries before Your Excellency, as represented in M. de Corny's memorandum; every assistance in the power of the deputy quartermaster general shall be afforded; but in his present situation, he cannot do what is necessary.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,  
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Capt. LaTouche to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

On board the Hermoine, at Bristol Ferry,  
10th July, 1780.

Sir:—I did not receive 'till the moment of my departure, the letter which Your Excellency did me the honor to send by Captain Evans. I had a desire, but the order of my court would not permit me, to release the vessel, agreeably to the desire of Governor Trumbull.

The inhabitants of Bermudas being under the government of the English, I cannot consider the sailors of that vessel as enemies; so I cannot on any pretence, release the prize; but I can send Captain Evans to Your Excellency, to give him his liberty, if you judge it proper. I relinquish all right which I have in him of being my prisoner.

I brought Miss Greene from Block Island, in good health. I think she will present herself to-morrow, to Your Excellency.

I am, with respect, sir,  
Your Excellency's very humble and obedient servant,  
LA TOUCHE.

To Governor Greene.

*Gov. Trumbull, of Connecticut, to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Lebanon, 18th July, 1780.

Sir:—We have various reports about the arrival of an armament of troops and ships, from our illustrious ally, the king of France; and about another division to be expected soon; but have received no direct intelligence of their number, strength or circumstances of those who have arrived, nor certainly of what others may be expected.

In a matter of so much importance, I should have much pleasure to receive the most perfect intelligence, and would receive it as a favor, and willingly re-pay it when in my power, if you will please to give me every material information you are possessed of respecting them. I have nothing to communicate at present.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,  
JON'H. TRUMBULL.

To Governor Greene.

*Jabez Bowen to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Providence, July 20th, 1780.

Sir:—Yesterday Col. Dyer arrived here from Connecticut, on his way to Boston, as a commissioner, to meet others from the New England States. He informed me that letters had been sent to the authority of this government to make an appointment also; and was very uneasy that he heard nothing of the matter here. Doubtless the letter must have come to your hands; and from his representation, there is great necessity of complying with the request, and appointing some one to push on to Boston, without loss of time.

I am informed also, from Connecticut, that there are four hundred wagons on the road, from Pennsylvania, for the use of the French army; such a vast number of horses will destroy all the forage and all the grain in New England. The General Assembly had much better engage to supply the teams that shall be wanted, even to re-

move the baggage of the army to Hartford, than to encourage or countenance the coming of such a swarm of locusts into this part of the country. A representation of the impropriety and vast expense attending this business, ought to be made to the commander of the French army. I am sure it will cost more to bring the wagons from Pennsylvania than it would to carry the whole baggage to camp. I should think it would be much better to carry the baggage in the transports to Norwalk or Fairfield; that would save one hundred and fifty miles transportation. This matter I know must be touched delicately, yet, as our allies are strangers, they ought to be informed of the most cheap and convenient ways of doing their business. Nothing new here.

I remain Your Excellency's most humble servant,  
JABEZ BOWEN.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Ezekiel Cornell to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Philadelphia, July 24th, 1780.

Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 11th instant, this day. There are official accounts that Admirals Graves and Arbuthnott, with twenty-one ships of war, sailed from Sandy Hook, making their course south-east by south, until they were out of sight, their destination unknown. Various are the conjectures; some suppose Rhode Island, others that they are gone in quest of the reinforcements expected from France.

Since my arrival at this place, I have spent a considerable part of my leisure time (of which I have plenty), in making myself acquainted with the institution of the several boards as ordered by Congress; their several modes of doing business, the several chambers of accounts and their methods; together with the conduct of all persons employed in public business under the immediate direction of either of the boards. That I should be thought either imprudent or indelicate, I must omit entering into particulars on this subject. But the want of decision is evident, and oftentimes in matters of great national concern at this critical conjuncture; and it's too evident that a general languor hath spread itself over all our public transactions.

Our finances are in a most deplorable situation, and but little attention paid in order to put them upon a more respectable footing. The task being difficult, and the complicated obstructions that always stare us in the face at first view, appears to me to be the reason that no more attention is paid to so great a national concern. I wish the time may not be near, when the most fatal consequences will overtake us, merely for want of money for public purposes. I wish you not to construe this letter to be written by dictates of fear. I assure you it is not, but with that truth and sincerity that the servant of a free people ought to speak.

I have also paid attention to all our foreign intelligence; and, upon the most favorable construction, I cannot see the least probability of a peace taking place, unless some capital stroke, can be struck this campaign in this quarter. It is probable that Great Britain will propose a truce with the several states for a limited time; the propriety of conceding to the measure, I must leave you to judge. It appears the victory the Britons obtained at Savannah last fall, hath much revived their spirits in Europe. The effect the reduction of Charleston will have, I must submit to your better judgment.

I should be happy if a more pleasant scene presented itself to my view, than prosecuting the present campaign, and making preparation for the heat in our exhausted situation; but as through that door at present, is all our hope of political salvation, I hope the united efforts of America, joined heart and hand in this common cause (in a more zealous manner than they have been of late), will show to the world that no difficulties

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are insurmountable when fired by that noble ardor that burns in the breast of every true American.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

E. CORNELL.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

N. B. The fleet mentioned, sailed on Thursday last.

*James Bowdoin, President of the Council of Massachusetts,  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

State of Massachusetts Bay,

Council Chamber, Boston, July 24th, 1780. }

Sir:—Colonel Dyer, of Connecticut, arrived here last week, appointed by that state to meet in this town, and confer with such commissioners as might be appointed by the states of Rhode Island and New Hampshire and this state, to consult and advise in all such business and affairs as shall be brought under consideration, relative to the war; and to promote and forward the most vigorous exertions of the present campaign, and to cultivate a good understanding and procure a generous treatment of the officers and men of our great and generous ally, and make report thereof accordingly.

Colonel Dyer informs us that in consequence of this appointment, a letter was forwarded by the Governor of Connecticut to the Governor of Rhode Island, endorsing letters to the states of New Hampshire and to this, giving them information of this business, and inviting us to join in the measure. As the letter to us is not received, he concludes that by some accident the dispatches must have failed reaching Rhode Island. The council of this state have appointed commissioners for the purposes aforesaid, deeming the subject to be of great and pressing necessity; and they, with Col. Dyer, have agreed to meet again on Wednesday, the 2d of August next, at four o'clock, in the afternoon. We earnestly wish your council of safety, or supreme executive (if your legislative body are not convened), would appoint commissioners to meet at that time for the same end; and that they would endeavor punctually to attend, as the business ought not to be delayed.

In the name and behalf of the Council, I am,

With every sentiment of esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN, President.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, July 26th, 1780.

Sir:—I am just honored with yours of this date. I most earnestly request that the militia may be called in without the least loss of time. Permit me also to request that the removal of the cattle, horses, &c., from Connanicut Island may be ordered early in the morning; they are too many to be allowed to fall into the hands of the enemy.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To Governor Greene.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, July 26th, 1780.

Sir:—From a variety of the best intelligence, it appears that the enemy have a design on the fleet and army of our great and good al'y, now in this state; and that the attempt will be made with eight or ten thousand land forces, which were actually embarking several days since, at White Stone, on Long Island; and at Westchester.

In consequence of which, I am constrained to request that you would be pleased to order in your whole militia with the utmost dispatch. They must bring five or six days' provisions with them, and the commissary must make every exertion in his power to obtain and send in supplies; which I beg leave to submit to your consideration and determination.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

P. S. Please to let those of the vicinity be sent in immediately. If any mode has been adopted for an instant call or alarm of the militia, General Rochambeau wishes recourse may be to that mode, as the enemy are momentarily expected; and should our force be inadequate, the consequences may be fatal.

W. H.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, July 26th, 1780

Sir:—I am informed that there is a large number of horses and cattle on Connanicut Island. The stock on that island was driven off before the British took possession of it; the same was done by the British when the Count d'Estaing came to this harbor. The Count de Rochambeau thinks the stock on the island should be immediately removed to this island or some place of safety. The Marquis de Lafayette and myself are of the same opinion.

I would therefore request that the horses, cattle and sheep on Connanicut Island may be removed immediately to such place as Your Excellency may think proper. If any of the cattle are fit for the slaughter, the French general will buy them.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, July 27th, 1780.

Sir:—I am just now honored with yours, of this date; am happy that measures which I think will be effectual, have been taken for the removal of the stock from Connanicut Island; and also for calling in the militia. The communication at and near Howland's Ferry must at any rate be secured on the main and island side; the principal part of the militia must repair there.

Upon the first intelligence that the enemy intended an attempt on the fleet and army

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of our great good ally in this state, I ordered the brigade of militia in the county of Bristol, to march this way; and have since called for three other regiments in the counties of Suffolk and Worcester; which, from the time, I think may be soon expected.

I also called for all the three months militia from the state of Massachusetts, except those of the counties of Hampshire and Berkshire, which will make a very respectable body. But probably many are too far advanced in their march to the westward to be turned this way. I also requested the council at Boston to direct their commissary to send on provisions. I also requested Governor Trumbull to order one thousand militia from the nearest parts of Connecticut to rendezvous at Greenwich, and to forward provisions at least sufficient for these men. These requisitions, with the militia of your state, I think fully sufficient for the present, if they arrive in season.

I thank you, sir, for stopping Captain Gibbs and his company. Enclosed is an order for them to march to Tiverton, which I request may be sent to him. I also request that any detachments who are on their march to the westward, may be stopped, should they come near Providence, and turned this way. I apprehend the council of Massachusetts will send to those at Springfield, and other parts of that state. This will ease the other militia.

I beg leave to submit to Your Excellency whether it would not contribute to the public service at this time, for the council of war to sit nearer this place than Providence. Every exertion is in exercise to put this place in a proper condition of defence.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, July 31st, 1780.

Sir:—In consequence of intelligence received this moment from His Excellency Governor Trumbull, General de Rochambeau requests the immediate return of all your militia to Tiverton and Bristol. I pray not a moment may be lost.

I am, with great regard,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

A letter received this moment from General Washington, urges the necessity of the above measure.

W. H.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, August 12th, 1780.

Sir:—I find the French troops in great want of straw, an article absolutely necessary for the preservation of the health of the soldiers, and about which the general and officers are extremely anxious. I apprehend that there is plenty of straw in the state; but that the early season prevents the farmers threshing out their grain. General Compte de Rochambeau informs me that he will send out some of his own people to assist in threshing, if the straw cannot be otherwise obtained.

I beg leave to submit this matter to the consideration of the honorable the council of

war, and that some measures recommendatory or otherwise may be taken to secure a supply of this necessary article.

We have no news of consequence. The British fleet are said to have gone into Gardner's Bay.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To Governor Greene.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, August 14th, 1780.

Sir:—I am just honored with a resolve of the honorable the council of war, of the 12th instant, requesting that fifty men from Colonel Greene's regiment may be ordered to cut and make hay on Point Judith.

I have just received positive orders from General Washington, to keep that regiment to close and constant discipline, which puts it out of my power to grant the request of the honorable council of war; but I will readily consent that fifty of your three months' militia be ordered on that service.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To Governor Greene.

*Ephraim Blaine to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Tappan, 14th August, 1780.

Sir:—The army is now become numerous, and consumes large quantities of provisions daily. Our Continental supplies are quite exhausted, and our total dependence is on state supplies, agreeably to the requisition of Congress, and their committee at headquarters. We are now without a magazine of any species of provisions; feed from hand to mouth (on the receivals of this day depend the issues of to-morrow). In this critical condition is an army which consumes twenty-five thousand rations daily. A great number of those troops have lives which have not been enured to the hardships of the field, or want of provisions in camp.

Under these circumstances, a failure of two days' supply, might be attended with the most fatal consequences, which might not be in the power of His Excellency the commander-in-chief to prevent—have therefore in the most pressing terms to request Your Excellency and Council to use every possible measure which may facilitate the purchases required of your state, and order punctuality in delivering and forwarding the same.

I have great reason to doubt the want of spirit and exertion in many of the agents who are empowered to purchase, which I hope will be a sufficient apology for my being so pointed on that head.

Shall take it a particular favor to have a line from you, informing what your prospects are respecting supplies.

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

EPHRAIM BLAINE, C. G. P.

To Governor Greene.

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*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, August 20th, 1780.

Sir:—I have the honor to forward the enclosed, which are just received per express.

I have this day received a letter from His Excellency Gen. Washington, dated 17th inst., in which he is pleased to speak of your regiment of three months militia as raised; and mentions at what period he would have them march. As the regiment is not yet raised, I have thought it my duty to mention it to Your Excellency.

The enemy are said again to be preparing for an embarkation; the number of troops is said to be about two thousand. From several circumstances, it would seem that they are intended for a coasting expedition; perhaps to plunder stock, &c.

Sixteen or eighteen sail of British ships appeared off this harbor yesterday; but two or three are to be seen to-day.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To Governor Greene.

*James Bowdoin, President of the Council of Massachusetts.  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Council Chamber, Boston, }  
August 28th, 1780. }

Sir:—The committee appointed by the General Assembly of this state to superintend the purchases of provisions for the army, having represented to the Council that in the prosecution of their business they had met with considerable embarrassments, arising from the interference of the purchasers of cattle appointed by the commissary of the French army, who has supplied them with hard money for that purpose; and that they have therewith been able to defeat the purchases of such persons as have been appointed by them.

The Council taking this representation under their consideration, and fearing if some measures were not speedily adopted to remove this difficulty, the American army might soon be destitute of supplies, thought fit to appoint Thomas Cushing and Robert Treat Paine, Esqs., two of their number, to repair immediately to Rhode Island, to confer with their Excellencies the French admiral and the French general, together with the commissaries of the French fleet and army upon this subject. The committee aforesaid, accordingly proceeded to Rhode Island, and held the conference above referred to; and we now enclose you their report, with the papers accompanying the same, and desire you would lay them before your Assembly, for their consideration, and should be glad to be informed as soon as possible of the result of their deliberations upon this interesting subject, and whether they approve of the proposals that our committee have made to the intendant of the French army; or whether they think of adopting any other method for removing the difficulty complained of.

This is an affair that may be attended with very serious consequences; the keeping of our army together much depends upon the measure that may be adopted by these eastern states for furnishing them seasonably and punctually with the necessary supplies. No time, therefore, should be lost in attending to this matter. Our Assembly stands prorogued to the 7th day of September next, when this matter will be laid before them for their consideration. By that time, we hope your Assembly will have come into

some determination upon this important subject; and that you will be able to inform us of the same, so that there may be a uniformity of conduct relative to this matter in the states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

Before we close this letter, we would just observe, that in conducting this matter of supplies for the army, care ought to be taken to oblige the persons who are, or who may be, employed for this purpose, to make their purchases within the limits of the state by whom they are appointed; or at least to take effectual care that the several states have credit for the cattle, rum and other articles that are, or may be, purchased within them respectively otherwise it may not be in the power of the several states punctually to comply with the resolution of Congress, for furnishing the specific articles required of them respectively.

In the name and behalf of the Council,

I am, with respect, your most humble servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN, President.

To Governor Greene.

*Intendant Tarle to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, August 29th, 1780.

Gentlemen:—Mons. the Compte de Rochambeau has desired me to do myself the honor to inform you, that although he does not consider the campaign to be near a conclusion, and that he keeps his army constantly ready to march any where that General Washington shall judge necessary for the support of the common cause, he thinks gentlemen, that both wisdom and prudence dictate to him to provide in time those means which ought to be adopted to lodge his troops as soon as General Washington shall authorize him to order them into winter quarters; and after having maturely examined the two modes he has to choose for this purpose, whether to place them in barracks, or to quarter them in Newport, Bristol and Warren, he judges, gentlemen, that notwithstanding his earnest desire to adopt the first method, as the most proper to maintain the exact discipline he has established in his army, he thinks best, nevertheless to prefer the second, considering the benefit that will accrue therefrom to the inhabitants of the towns of Newport, Bristol and Warren, as by this means those houses, which have been so exceedingly damaged by the English whilst they were in possession of this island, will be repaired.

These, gentlemen, are the sentiments of the Compte de Rochambeau. Should circumstances determine General Washington to place the French army in winter quarters on Rhode Island, and he has charged me to communicate them to you, under a firm persuasion that they will be agreeable to you; and that on your part, gentlemen, you will concur to fulfil his desires, in assisting him by all the means in your power with wood and materials necessary to repair houses in Newport and Bristol.

You are sensible, gentlemen, of the advantages the inhabitants of these towns will derive from the proposed arrangements; on which subject the Compte de Rochambeau requests you to favor me immediately with your determination and intentions.

I have the honor to be, with respect, gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

TARLE,

Intendant de L'Armie.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, August 30, 1780.

Sir:—I am informed by Captain Claghorn, who commands the guards of Point Judith and the several beacons between Tower Hill and Watch Hill, that there is a very frequent communication of boats between Block Island and the main at different places between Point Judith and Watch Hill, under pretence of coming to mill, &c.; and that British officers either of the army or navy, in disguise, spies or disaffected persons may pass and re-pass with impunity, and without the least danger of detection.

How far the intercourse is tolerated by the laws of the state, or may be thought necessary and expedient, I submit to Your Excellency; but if necessary to be continued, will it not be proper to oblige all boats going to or coming from Block Island, to go from or come to, one, two or more established places; and that all persons and effects be examined, and such as are suspected, taken before proper authority, and be proceeded with as an examination may appear expedient for the public safety.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress,  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

Philadelphia, Sept. 2d, 1780.

Sir:—Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, an act of Congress of the 26th ult., earnestly recommending to the several states to take the most speedy and effectual means in their power for drawing in their respective quotas of the Continental bills of credit, to be destroyed either by tax, or exchanging for them new bills emitted pursuant to the resolution of the 18th of March last, at a rate not less than forty for one, that the whole of the new bills may be issued.

Also recommending to the several states to raise by taxes, payable in the new bills above mentioned or specie, their respective quotas of \$3,000,000, agreeably to the apportionment of the 7th October, 1779, and pay the same into the treasury of the United States as soon as possible; the payment to be fully completed by the last day of December next; each state to be allowed interest from the time it is paid; to be hereafter adjusted according to a resolution of the 6th October, 1779.

You will also observe, by this act, provision is made for the payment of the public debts due in any of the states, in the departments of the late Quartermaster Greene and Commissary Wadsworth; as also the present commissary general of purchases.

And in order to prevent the possibility of a depreciation in the new bills, it is earnestly recommended to the several states not to issue bills of credit for a currency on any amount whatever, in such manner as to have in circulation a greater amount than their respective quotas of the new bills.

And in order that justice may be done to the creditors of the United States for supplies furnished the army or transportation thereof, provision is made by this act that such creditors be paid the just value of their debts, to be ascertained in the manner expressed in the act; and all debts due to the United States are to be justly paid in like manner.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

To Governor Greene.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, September 9th, 1780.

Sir:—Yesterday I had the honor to receive a letter from His Excellency General Washington, dated the 28th ultimo, in which is a paragraph as follows:

“The late European intelligence has so altered the immediate prospects of the campaign, that I think it advisable to dismiss the militia now in service, and prevent any other coming out for the present. You will therefore let those now with you return home as soon as their services are no longer thought necessary by the Compte de Rochambeau; for as the probability of operating in this quarter is greatly diminished, and that of an operation elsewhere remote, it becomes our duty to reduce our expenses and economise our supplies as much as possible.”

I thought it my duty to communicate the foregoing to Your Excellency before the sitting of the Honorable the General Assembly, that any useless expense in detaching the militia, may be avoided.

General Washington has probably written Your Excellency more fully on this subject.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To Governor Greene.

*Gen. Heath to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, Sept. 28th, 1780.

Sir:—I have been honored with yours of the 23d instant; and agreeably to your recommendation, have revived my former orders, forbidding intercourse between the main and Block Island, until further orders. Such restriction I think at this time absolutely necessary.

I was informed the last evening, that yesterday or the day before a boat came to Point Judith, but upon the appearance of some of our soldiers, immediately put off from the shore. It's also reported that a captain of the British army has been twenty-four hours in this town; during which, he took a view of the works, and saw part of the troops turn out for exercise, &c.

The distresses of the American troops doing duty in this state are so great, especially on account of their want of fuel, as to constrain me to make a representation to Your Excellency. The present embarrassed state of our public finances is fully known to you. This, with the late change in the quartermaster general's department, has almost totally suspended supplies from that department in the customary way.

We can procure wood standing. We have men to cut it; and if it could be carted to the landing, the troops could boat it to the island, and carry it to their encampments. But we have not teams to cart the wood to the landing, and the inhabitants will not do it on credit.

In this case, what is to be done? Disband the troops I cannot at this time; and the means of relief to their wants is not in my power. They have not fuel to cook their provisions. I am therefore under the necessity to request assistance from Your Excellency, by enabling or empowering the deputy quartermaster general Colonel Bowen in such way as may be thought proper to obtain teams. If relief cannot be afforded, I cannot hold myself answerable for consequences to which necessity will drive the troops

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to sustain life. Local situation and circumstances lead me to trouble Your Excellency with this representation.

We have no news. The fleet remains near Gardner's Island.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

W. HEATH.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Deputy Quartermaster General Bowen to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Providence, Sept. 29th, 1780.

Sir:—The enclosed letter from General Heath, has just come to hand; and as it respects the troops, I have sent it per express.

Application has been repeatedly made to the Council of Massachusetts for money to supply the troops, but none received; nor any other encouragement, than what I enclosed Your Excellency while at Newport.

To purchase any more on credit, is almost impossible; and was it possible, I should decline doing it without the strongest assurances of my being soon enabled to pay for what might be received in that way. I have repeatedly wrote to Colonel Pickering, the new quartermaster general; but have not received a line in answer. The situation of the troops is truly distressing; and perhaps a dismission of the three months' men might be advisable.

I am, respectfully,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

EPH'M BOWEN, D. Q. M. G.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Colonel Israel Angel to the Governor and Council of Rhode Island.*

Camp Orange Town, Oct. 1st, 1780.

Gentlemen:—These will be delivered you by Captain William Tew, who is sent by leave obtained from the commander-in-chief, and the consent of the officers of the regiment, to receive and bring on the proportion of the £75,000, ordered in July session to be paid to the line of the state, on the depreciation account. The abstract for ascertaining the regiment's proportion of the money, was sent the 3d of August last.

I have also to inform you, that that it is the opinion of the officers in general, that receiving confiscated lands for the balances due them, would be attended with much difficulty, and perhaps confusion among them in making a division of said land; they therefore decline taking the same. My sentiments on the matter were fully expressed in my letter of the 31st of last August, to the Governor.

Gentlemen, if you recollect, I wrote to you some time last winter concerning promotions and new appointments, which had taken place in my regiment, by orders from General Gates; but was informed by Lieutenant Colonel Olney, that the Assembly would not approve of the appointments, except the commander-in-chief would certify that that number of officers was necessary in the regiment; upon which I immediately applied to His Excellency, and procured such a certificate, signed by himself, and sent it on to the state, directed to the Governor and Council; but have heard nothing of the matter since, though I have wrote once before on the subject; therefore have

reason to think that the letters have miscarried, or that the approbation of their appointments was sent to the board of war, and are there mislaid; and as the gentlemen have served a long time without their commissions, and are very anxious to know whether they are to have them or not; often applying to me on the subject, by the Council; I beg the Council would be pleased to inform me by Captain Tew, whether the letters ever came to hand, and if they did, what is done on the matter.

As for news, gentlemen, I shall refer you to Capt. Tew for all that is here.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient, humble servant,

ISRAEL ANGELL.

To the Governor and Council, state of Rhode Island.

N. B. It is expected that the state will pay the expenses of sending for the money due the regiment.

*Assistant Quartermaster General Ephraim Bowen, Jr., to  
the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Providence, October 9, 1780.

Sir:—I have to acquaint Your Excellency that the Duke de Lauzun, brigadier general of the French army, will be in this town the day after to-morrow, to see the quarters for himself, and officers and men of the legion.

I pointed out to the aid de camp of His Excellency the Count de Rochambeau, such houses, etc., as I thought would be suitable and best spared.

I also requested the Council to make some provision for the quartering of the men above mentioned, which they referred to the Assembly. As the duke comes on purpose for this affair, I beg that Your Excellency will immediately call the Council and make such provision as will appear necessary. I shall not undertake to give any assistance to them, without proper directions.

I am, &c., &c.,  
EPH'M BOWEN, JR.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Col. C. Greene to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, 11th Oct., 1780.

Sir:—The French ambassador would have had the pleasure of dining with Your Excellency yesterday. His intention was to have gone up by water, but the wind and tide both being against it, obliged him to give over the visit; and as business called him to Boston, he has gone for that place. He desired me to make his best compliments, and excuse to Your Excellency.

The intendant informs me he has just in great difficulty in getting wood brought from Taunton river, Fall River and Assonet; the owners of vessels suitable for that business demanding the most extravagant prices for their service, he asked me if it would not be just I should give him a power to take them, and pay them what had been customary.

I gave him for answer, it would be more proper and just that any matters of that kind should be done by the legislative authority of the state; and that I would let Your Excellency know the difficulty complained of, to which this is only a prelude, as I requested of him if the cause of complaint could not be remedied by ways more agree-

[Nov.,

able, to give it in writing what he complained of, and I would enclose it to you, and join him in any reasonable request.

I am, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

C. GREENE.

To Governor Greene.

P. S. I fear we shall be greatly distressed for want of wood for our troops. I learn the wood purchased by Major Lovett, is several miles from any landing, and part of the road very bad; if so, our wagons will not be able to get it fast enough. we are now almost out, and no prospect of getting any soon from that quarter or any other.

*Col. C. Greene to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, 27th Oct., 1780.

Sir:—A flag that arrived this day from Admiral Arbuthnot, has brought more prisoners than Mr. Lawrence was to carry to be exchanged. It is my opinion that Mr. Lawrence's prisoners had better be sent by that flag in exchange for those that come on her, as far as they will go, unless there should be any difficulty as to rank in officers; be that as it may, Mr. Lawrence has no prospect of going very soon, he will have sufficient time for your directions in the matter.

The stock on Point Judith is threatened by the British fleet. Capt. Page will give you particulars. I shall send orders to-morrow morning to have it drove out of their way, if they keep their position; and wish to know soon if it meets with your approbation.

I received a letter this day from His Excellency General Washington, dated the 21st; gives no news, but informs me he shall not call for the levies. The troops for the war must depend on circumstances whether they go or not.

If the Assembly is sitting, I wish to know if they agree that the levies enlist with the French troops as drivers for their artillery. Though I am very sure there can be no objection to it, as it will be a saving to the state of some provisions.

They wanted about fifty, which I have detached; and part of them are willing to enlist on the terms. They offer for fourteen months.

I am, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's very humble servant,

C. GREENE.

To Governor Greene.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress,  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

*Circular.]*

In Congress, Nov. 9th, 1780.

Sir:—Fully convinced of our inability to obtain the grand object of the Federal Union, without the vigorous exertions of the several states, we have thought it our duty to make the requisition contained in the enclosed resolutions; and we wish our constituents to be impressed with the necessity of a speedy and punctual compliance; for although by the blessing of Providence, we have been conducted thus far in a war with a powerful and enraged enemy, yet the events of the present year have not enabled us to speak the language of triumph. This indeed, may be attributed to a variety of causes; but we cannot refrain from observing that the unpunctuality of the states in their supplies of men, money and provisions, is not one of the least.

It is unnecessary to point out the public wants and distresses. They are too well known, too generally felt. Hitherto the war has been carried on principally by emissions of paper money. This being depreciated, and Congress having, in compliance with the general inclination and voice of their constituents, resolved to stop farther emissions, we are compelled to call upon the states for taxes and supplies.

One opinion seems to prevail, that the foreign loans can be obtained; and we perceive with regret that some are disposed to place too great reliance on this resource. Duty compels us to be explicit with our constituents on a subject of such interesting importance. Every effort has been made for the purpose of procuring loans; but without sufficient success to justify a relaxation of our most vigorous exertions.

It is to be observed that a powerful armed neutrality appears to be formed in Europe, determined to support the freedom of commerce. Should overtures of peace be the result of a convention of the neutral powers, is it not our interest, is it not our indispensable duty to be prepared for such an event? Our object is of the greatest magnitude; the security, the freedom and independence of the United States; an experience evinces that no nation can promise itself a safe and honorable peace, which is not in a condition to maintain a war with vigor. We are confident there is no want of ability in the states to do this. Can arguments then be necessary to call forth every internal resource which may contribute to put a happy termination to that war? Is it not high time to expel from our country an enemy whose progress is marked with blood and desolation, and whose successes inspire them only with redoubled vengeance? The estimate may appear large, but we conceive them to be absolute necessary.

To the utmost of our power we have endeavored to correct abuses in the public expenditures. We have called for the aid of the respective executives. Again we recommend this essential object to their attention. Nothing on our part shall be wanting which may contribute to promote the strictest economy in disposing the supplies now required.

We have only to add our earnest desire that no time may be lost; and should the legislature of your state not be in session on the receipt of this letter, that it may be immediately convened.

By order and in behalf of the United in States, in Congress assembled,  
SAMUEL HUNTINGTON, President.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

### *Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, Preakness, }  
November 10th, 1780. }

Circular.]

Sir:—From a collective view of the state of our clothing, I find we have not more in the public magazines than will be sufficient for one half of the men enlisted for the war, or whose term of service will extend beyond the winter. To depend any longer upon the supply expected from Europe arriving in time to relieve the wants of the troops, will be leaving the matter upon too precarious a footing.

I have therefore thought it a duty incumbent upon me, to give you this information, that you may endeavor to procure and send forward the articles most essential to the convenience and comfort of the men. I should have done it sooner, but I still flattered myself with an ample supply from abroad. The articles most wanted, will be blankets, waistcoats, woolen overalls and stockings. The greater part of the men have coats that may enable them, with warm under-clothes to rub through the severity of winter. I would recommend that the cloth, with thread, buttons, &c., be sent to the army in the piece; it may be made up there, agreeably to the wants of the men, and quicker than at home; as there are tailors sufficient in every corps.

[Nov.,

The returns with which you have lately been furnished, very accurately points out the number of men entitled to clothing from the public. A supply equal to half that number, will be absolutely necessary; and as there is no probable chance, for the reasons I have before mentioned, of obtaining it from the Continental agent, I must entreat the exertions of each state in behalf of its own troops, as the only means of preventing a number of them from experiencing extreme distress the ensuing winter.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To the State of Rhode Island.

*Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress,  
to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Circular.]

Philadelphia, Nov. 13th, 1780.

Sir:—Congress having received information from the honorable the minister of France, of inconveniences and injuries received by our allies, resulting from the abuse the British make of the papers and clearances they take in American prizes, by personating the officers and commanders named in such papers, being fully acquainted with the language and manners of our officers and seamen, &c.

In compliance with the request of the minister of France, Congress have adopted the enclosed resolution, in order to detect such abuses in future; and I am to request Your Excellency's attention to the necessary measures for carrying the same into effectual execution.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

To Governor Greene.

*Le Compte de Rochambeau to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Providence, 4th Dec., 1780.

Sir:—I received at New London in a little journey I made there, a letter from Gen. Washington, of the 27th of November, in which he sent me orders for Colonel Greene, to march with his regiment to West Point; as I have given them to the French cutter that was to go to Newport, and that I fear the wind has hindered him to arrive, I have the honor to send you the extract of Gen. Washington:

"As the two Rhode Island regiments are to be incorporated into one, by a new arrangement of the army, I would wish to unite them at West Point, for the purpose of the incorporation. If their services should be of no use to you, I should be obliged to give orders to Col. Greene to march to West Point."

I beg Your Excellency will give him his orders, and to relieve with other troops the posts of Providence, Butt's Hill and Point Judith, if you think it proper. I will send twenty-four men to guard Butt's Hill, and spare your troops that post. I think it necessary to have always a detachment at Point Judith, in order to hinder the communication of the ill-intentioned with the enemy.

My plan was to have the honor to see Your Excellency at Greenwich, instead of passing here; but having heard at Watertown that the General Assembly was still at Greenwich, I was afraid to be to you some trouble for the lodgings, and I took my way through this place. I intend to be to-morrow evening at Newport.

I beg Your Excellency will present my respects to Mistress Greene, and be assured that—I have the honor to be, with great esteem,  
Your Excellency's most humble and most obedient servant,

LE COMPTE DE ROCHAMBEAU.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to General le Compte de Rochambeau.*

Warwick, state of Rhode Island, }  
December 6th, 1780. }

Sir:—I had the honor to receive Your Excellency's favor of the 4th instant, respecting Colonel Greene's regiment, and have laid the same before the General Assembly—who have made provision for forwarding them to West Point, agreeably to the requisition of His Excellency General Washington.

It is perfectly agreeable to the General Assembly that Your Excellency should place a guard at Butt's Hill. Care will be taken by us to place sufficient guards in Providence.

With respect to the post at Point Judith, the General Assembly considering the advanced season of the year, and other circumstances, are of opinion that the placing a detachment there at present, may be dispensed with. Should Your Excellency's sentiments prove different, upon being favored with them, they shall receive the earliest attention and consideration.

I have the honor to be, with great esteem, sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

WILLIAM GREENE,

To le Compte de Rochambeau.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to Gen. Washington.*

Warwick, 8th December, 1780.

Sir:—In consequence of Your Excellency's requisitions, the General Assembly have ordered three hundred and eight men to be enlisted by the 1st day of January next, to complete the state's regiment, agreeably to the resolution of Congress, to serve during the war. They are to receive as a bounty one hundred and twenty silver dollars; and for three years, one hundred dollars. And whatever number may be deficient on the said 1st day of January, in order to procure them immediately, the whole of the inhabitants from sixteen years old and upwards, throughout this state, are to be put into classes in numbers, agreeably to the deficiencies, and each one to furnish a man.

They have also furnished this state's clothier with cash, to procure clothing, to make up the deficiency of that article in their regiment. And have also ordered the purchasing commissary to purchase the necessary supplies. And in order to furnish those departments as well as all others, as far as may be reasonably expected from this little state, the Assembly have ordered a tax of £1,000,000, in the old Continental bills, to be paid by the 1st day of February, and the 1st day of April next, in equal halves; and a further sum of £16,000, in silver; ten of which to be paid by the 1st of January next, the other by the 1st of February following.

These proceedings I have thought proper to communicate to you, that you may be

informed of the manner in which this state has undertaken to comply with your requisitions; and I hope they will meet your approbation.

I am, with great truth,

Your Excellency's most obedient, and most humble servant,

WILLIAM GREENE.

To His Excellency General Washington.

*Gen. Washington to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Headquarters, New Windsor,  
10th December, 1780.

Sir:—Your Excellency will, I presume, have received before this reaches you, an act of Congress of the 4th of last month, calling on the several states for specific quantities of fresh and salt provision, flour, salt and rum for the army, and directing all of the above articles, except the fresh meat, to be collected and deposited at such places in each of the states, as should be judged most convenient by me. This communication I should have done myself the honor of making somewhat earlier, had not the greater part of my time, since the receipt of the act, been taken up in arranging and visiting the hospitals and winter cantonments of the army.

Upon considering the point with respect to the supplies required of your state, I beg leave to inform Your Excellency that it appears to me that the whole, the fresh meat excepted, may be delivered at Providence.

The commissary general, as he is directed, will inform you from time to time of the quantities of live cattle which will be necessary, and where they are to be delivered.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,  
GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly, for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at East Greenwich, on Wednesday, the 17th day of January, 1781.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. William West, Deputy Governor.

Whereas, the inferior court of common pleas and general sessions of the peace, which was to have been held at East Greenwich, within and for the county of Kent, on the third Monday in July last; and also on the third Monday in January instant, have both fallen through, by reason of the non-attendance of a sufficient number of justices to consti-

tute a quorum ; and of course great injustice will be done unless a fit remedy be provided,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the said court be revived ; that it be holden at East Greenwich, aforesaid, on the last Monday in January instant ; that all business, whether of a civil or criminal nature, which was to have been heard at either of the terms of the said court, which fell through, as aforesaid, be then and there heard and determined ; that all recognizances which were returnable at either of the said terms be continued, and returned on the second day of the term of the said court to be holden as aforesaid ; that the sheriff of the said county be, and he is hereby, directed to warn all the grand and petit jurors in the said county, who were drawn to serve at the last term of the said court, to attend at the present term ; and that they be liable to the same fines for non-attendance as though said court had been held at the usual term.

It is ordered, that this act be published in the next Providence newspapers.

Whereas, numbers of men, who were employed under Colonel Joseph Nightingale, during the alarm in August last, are not contained in the abstracts of the several companies to which they belonged, whereby they are unable to draw the money justly due to them for their services,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Joseph Nightingale make out an abstract of all such as were employed by and under him in the said service ; that he forward the same to Colonel Archibald Crary, and the others of the committee, at East Greenwich, to be examined and certified ; and that the said committee examine and return the same to His Excellency the Governor, who is hereby requested to furnish the said Joseph Nightingale with a sufficient number of certificates, to be by him filled, signed and delivered to the several persons mentioned in the said abstract, agreeably to an act of this Assembly, passed at the

last session, for paying off the troops who did duty in the said alarm.

Whereas, the following statement of an account and report were laid before this Assembly, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly to examine the account of Samuel Ward with the State.*

		Dr.
		£ s. d.
1780.	State of Rhode Island, &c., in account with Samuel Ward,	
July 21.	To cash paid Lieutenant Colonel Cobb, for use of Colonel Angell's regiment, per receipt.....	19,947 00 0
Aug. 13.	To cash paid to the families of sundry officers of Col. Angell's regiment, per receipt .....	1,845 00 0
Oct. 8.	To cash paid Capt. William Tew, as per receipt..... " balance of the order due to Colonel Angell's regiment, out of the money arising from the sale of wrecks assigned to the said regiment .....	19,589 15 0 39,123 01 0
		<hr/>
	Creditor.	£80,504 16 0
1780.	By cash received of the general treasurer in July and August 21,702 00 0	
Sept.	" an order on the general treasurer, for.....	58,712 16 0
		<hr/>
	Errors excepted,	£80,504 16 0
		S. WARD.

Examined the foregoing account, and compared the vouchers with the charges, and find it right cast, and the account balanced.

C. HARRIS.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby, accepted; and that the said account stand balanced.

Whereas, Mary Johnston, wife of Richard Johnston, late of Newport, baker, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that her said husband is now, and has been for some time past at New York; that she is desirous to be with him, especially as he has requested it; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to permit her to go with her family and furniture to her said husband, by the first conveyance; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted.

It is voted and resolved, that the deputy commissary general of issues be, and he is hereby, directed not to issue any provisions except in the town of Providence; that he dismiss all his assistants; and that the secretary furnish him with a copy of this resolve, as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. John I. Clark, Joseph Brown and John Jenckes be, and they are hereby appointed a committee to direct the commissary general of purchases within this state, to remove all the salted provisions and tallow, purchased for the use of the army, to the town of Providence; that there they have the same weighed, and the provisions re-packed in proper casks, and deposited in some convenient place in the said town; that the said committee be, and they are hereby, empowered to direct what officers or other persons shall draw provisions from the commissary of issues; and that they call on Solomon Southwick, Esq., deputy commissary of issues, for a return of all the provisions he has received of the commissary general of purchases in this state, or any other person on account of this state, and to whom the said provisions have been issued.

It is further voted and resolved, that three barrels of beef, and three barrels of flour be left at Newport, in the care of Christopher Ellery, Esq., to be issued to such prisoners as may arrive there from time to time; and that he be accountable for the expenditure thereof.

It is voted and resolved, that Benjamin Bourne, Esq., deputy quartermaster general in this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to take up suitable and sufficient barracks in the town of Providence, for the new levies now raised, and raising, to fill up this state's quota of the Continental army; that he also take up a proper house to be used as an hospital for the convalescents; and that Jonathan Arnold, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to superintend the

said hospital, and to have the care of such convalescents as shall from time to time be placed therein.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to number and sign the Continental money, on the part of this state, be allowed one-fourth part of one per centum for the said service, the resolution of the 24th day of July, A. D. 1780, notwithstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that this Assembly will at the next session apportion and assess on the several towns within this state, an annual tax for six years successively, for the purpose of sinking the Continental money to be issued by this state, agreeably to an act thereof.

It is voted and resolved, that one year's interest be allowed upon the balances due to the Continental officers of this state, to make good the depreciation of their pay.

Whereas, Colonel Christopher Greene and Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Ward preferred a memorial, and represented unto this Assembly, that they have been highly censured by the six months' men, who were annexed to their regiment; that in consequence thereof, reports have been industriously circulated injurious to the recruiting service and to their characters; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to order an immediate inquiry to be made into their conduct as commanding officers of the first regiment of this state, whilst the said six months' men were annexed to it; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Jeremiah Whipple, Daniel Owen and Elisha Mowry be, and they are hereby appointed a committee, to make inquiry accordingly, and report the same as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer of this state pay into the Continental loan office within this state, all the Continental bills now in the treasury, or which shall be hereafter received into his office, in payment of Continental or state taxes assessed by this Assembly; and that he exchange the same for bills of the new emission now in

the said loan office, agreeably to the acts of Congres, and of this Assembly.

It is further voted and resolved, that when the said bills shall be numbered, signed and countersigned, agreeably to the said acts, four-tenths thereof be paid in the said loan office, to be at the disposal of Congress ; and the remaining six-tenths be paid into the general treasury of this state, to be at the disposal of this Assembly ; and that all orders upon the said treasury, either upon former or future grants, for old Continental bills, be paid in the said bills of the new emission, at the exchange of forty of the old dollars for one of the new emission.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to adjust the general treasurer's accounts, receive of him as keeper of the Continental loan office, the interest due on the loan office certificates in the treasury of this state ; that they lodge the money received for the said interest in the general treasury, and take the general treasurer's receipt therefor ; that the said committee also receive of the general treasurer the money emitted in June, A. D. 1780, and the four per cent. notes, now in his office ; that they take a regular account of, and burn the same ; and that they make report thereof to this Assembly at the next sestion.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to ascertain the depreciation on the wages due to the officers and soldiers of the state's battalions, proceed to adjust Col. Henry Sherburne's accounts ; and that they do not charge him any depreciation on the £1,890, balance due from him on account of money received for recruiting ; which said balance he paid into the general treasury, in June, A. D 1779.

It is further voted and resolved, that the officers, and such non-commissioned officers and soldiers only of the said regiment as are engaged during the war, be, and they are hereby, empowered to receive their proportion of £6,000, with Colonels Greene and Angell's regiments, that is assessed and collecting for the purpose of paying a part of the

depreciation due to the said regiments ; and that the committee appointed to set off lands for the remainder of the balances due to Colonels Greene and Angell's regiments set off lands to the said Henry Sherburne, his officers and men engaged as aforesaid, for their remaining balances.

Whereas, the committee who were appointed to ascertain the balances due to the officers and soldiers in the Continental service, belonging to this state, on account of the depreciation of their wages, have reported a balance of £22,610 17s., in specie, due to the commissioned and non-commissioned officers and privates of Colonels Christopher Greene and Israel Angell's regiments, who are engaged during the war, on account of the depreciation of their wages, up to the 1st day of August, A. D. 1780 ; and the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be accepted ; and that the balance due to each man respectively be allowed.

Whereas, the committee who were appointed to ascertain the balances due to the officers and soldiers in the Continental service, belonging to this state, on account of the depreciation of their pay, have reported a balance of £396 14s. 6d., due to Daniel Box, Esq., on account of depreciation, as aforesaid, up to the 1st day of August, A. D. 1780,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said report be accepted ; and that the said balance be allowed.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to set off lands to the troops of this state, for the depreciation of their wages, be, and they are hereby, directed to value and set off a house or houses, and land, for the balance due to Daniel Box, Esq., on account of depreciation as aforesaid ; and that he be no longer allowed depreciation on his wages by this state,—

It is further voted and resolved, that the balance due as aforesaid, be charged to the United States ; and that upon the said Daniel Box's receiving possession of the lands and buildings, to be set off to him, as aforesaid, he shall give to the said committee on behalf this state, a receipt for the

said balance, empowering this state to receive to their use whatever sum the Congress of the United States may allow to him as an officer in their service, on account of the depreciation of his wages up to the 1st day of August last; which receipt the said committee shall lodge with the accounts in the secretary's office, to enable the state to obtain it.

It is voted and resolved, that John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw out of the general treasury twelve thousand five hundred Continental dollars, of the new emission, to purchase clothing for this state's troops.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to receive of the collector of taxes for the town of Middletown, in part of that town's quota of taxes, a certificate given by Robert Crooke, assistant deputy quartermaster general, in favor of Mr. Giles Sanford, dated Newport, November 5, 1780, purporting that the United States were indebted to the said Giles Sanford \$1,860, in Continental money, of the old emissions.

Whereas, by the declarations of Messrs. John Fitton, John Thurston, Jeremiah F. Jenkins, Samuel Young and Joseph Parker, before the justices of the superior court, there appears to be considerable sums of money due from them to George Howell; and whereas, from the treasonable practices of the said George Howell, his goods, chattels and estate are forfeited to the use of this state,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Providence be, and he is hereby, directed to call upon the said persons, and receive of them the sums respectively due from them, as aforesaid, and pay the same, together with the money now in his hands, lately belonging to the said George Howell, into the general treasury.

And whereas, it is suggested, that some of the said persons have given their promissory notes to the said George Howell for the sums due from them, as aforesaid,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said persons be, and they are hereby, discharged from the payment of the said notes; and that this state will indemnify them for the same.

It is therefore further voted and resolved, that if any of the said persons shall neglect or refuse to pay to the said sheriff the sums acknowledged by them to be due as aforesaid, on or before the 1st day of February next, the said sheriff be, and he is hereby, directed to attach so much of the personal estate of the persons who shall so neglect or refuse, as will satisfy the sum due as aforesaid; that he dispose of the same in the same manner as is directed by law in case of attachment of personal estate upon execution; and that he make report of his proceedings in pursuance of this resolution, to this Assembly, at the next session.

Whereas, the minister of His Most Christian Majesty hath informed Congress that many inconveniences result from the abuse the British make of papers or clearances they take in American prizes; for prevention whereof in future, and in pursuance of a resolution of Congress,—

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the Governor of this state for the time being, cause to be inserted on the back of the commissions which shall be granted by him for private vessels of war, a minute description of the captain and their lieutenants, with their age, stature, complexion, places of nativity and of residence, respectively; and that he certify the same under the seal of the state.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that when commissions, commonly called letters of marque and reprisals, are granted to armed vessels going on mercantile voyages, the intendant of trade within this state, who shall grant a clearance for any such vessel, cause the master and chief mate thereof to undersign the same in his presence; and that he insert on the back of such clearance, a minute description of the persons of the said master and his mate,

with their age, stature, complexion, places of nativity and of residence; and certify the same under his signature and seal of office.

Resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to transmit a copy hereof to Congress, and to the commanding officer of the French fleet in America.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to ascertain the balances due to the officers and soldiers of this state's battalions, on account of the depreciation of their wages, report the balances due to such officers and soldiers of Colonel Henry Sherburne's regiment as have enlisted during the war, to the general treasurer of this state, and to the committee appointed to set off lands to the said officers and soldiers on account of depreciation as aforesaid; that the general treasurer, upon receiving the said report, pay the said Henry Sherburne, his said officers and soldiers, their proportion with Colonels Greene and Angell's regiments of £6,000, in specie; and that the said committee for setting off lands, upon such report's being made to them, proceed to set off lands to the said Henry Sherburne, his officers and men, as aforesaid.

Whereas, this Assembly, at the session held in December, A. D. 1776, passed an act, that such of the inhabitants of the town of Newport, &c., as were removed into other towns, and became chargeable, should be supported in such towns at the state's expense,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the said act be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Whereas, the safety and happiness of this state much depends on the due execution and observance of the laws; and whereas, certain towns within this state, have, without properly adverting to the consequences of such proceedings, in some instances neglected to assess the taxes apportioned to the several towns by this Assembly; and in others have deviated in many respects in the assessment of the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Messrs. Jonathan Arnold, Welcome Arnold, Joseph Brown, Theodore Foster and Henry Ward, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draught a bill annexing such further penalties for delinquency in assessing or collecting the taxes which may be hereafter assessed upon the inhabitants of this state, by this Assembly, as may compel a due observance thereof; and that they make report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the said committee draught a bill, and report the same at the next session, prescribing an oath of fidelity, allegiance and abjuration to be subscribed by the officers, and such others of the inhabitants of this state, as shall be therein described.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of John Wiess, drum-major of this state's Continental troops, praying that he may receive the same allowance for the depreciation of his wages as was made to the officers and soldiers of the said troops, for the time he continued in service in this state's troops, be granted; and that the committee heretofore appointed to adjust the depreciation of the wages of the said troops, settle the same, and make report as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to set off lands to the officers and soldiers of this state's Continental battalions, on account of the depreciation of their wages, be, and they are hereby, directed to appraise and set off to the commissioned officers of Colonel Israel Angell's regiment, the house and lot of land in the town of Providence, belonging to Gilbert Deblois, an absentee, against which information is made by the attorney general; provided the same shall be confiscated to and for the use of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the following wages and rations be allowed the respective officers and others, after mentioned, belonging to the military medical department in this state, when called into actual duty, to wit:

*Wages of Officers and others, belonging to the Military Medical Department of the State.*

	Dollars of the new emission.	Rations.
The director and purveyor general, 5 per day.	-	6
" surgeon and physician general, 4 2-3 "	-	5
Hospital surgeons, each, - - - 4 "	-	3
Surgeon's mates, " - - - 1 5-6 "	-	2
Apothecary's " " - 1 5-6 "	-	2
Hospital commissary, - - - 2 "	-	2
Steward, - - - - 1 "	-	2
Ward-master, - - - - 3-4 "	-	1
Matron, - - - - 1-2 "	-	1

And it is further voted and resolved, that the nurses, tenders, and all others doing duty in the hospital, and under the orders of the director and purveyor-general, shall draw the same pay and rations each, as are allowed and paid the private soldiers of the several regiments of militia of this state; except in cases of extraordinary duty and attention, when the director-general may add for their encouragement, to their daily wages and rations, as he shall judge just and right; not exceeding sixpence, in money, and half a ration per day.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the director of the military hospital make out an abstract of all persons employed in his department in the alarm in August last, and deliver the same to the committee appointed to examine the abstracts; that upon the said abstract's being certified by the said committee, His Excellency the Governor be requested to deliver to the said director a sufficient number of certificates for paying off the same; and that the collectors of taxes be, and they are hereby, directed to receive the said certificates in payment of taxes, in the same manner as is directed by an act of this Assembly, passed at the last session, for paying off the troops who did duty in the said alarm.

An Act in addition to, and amendment of, an act, passed at the last session of this Assembly, for filling up and completing this state's quota of the Continental army.

[For this act, see printed Schedule.]

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to pay to Colonel Israel Angell all the money he shall receive of the sheriff of the county of Providence, on account of debts due to George Howell; as also all the silver or gold now in the general treasury, or which shall be in the said treasury on the 1st day of February next, to the amount of the proportion of the non-commissioned officers and privates of his regiment of the sum of £6,000, heretofore ordered to be paid to such officers and soldiers of this state's Continental battalions as were engaged during the war; and that the said Israel Angell pay the same to the said non-commissioned officers and privates in their proportions, respectively.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Manchester and Spink Tarbox, be, and they are hereby, permitted to subscribe the test, agreeably to the request of Stephen Potter, Esq., he having assured this Assembly that they are friends to the United States.

Whereas, the inhabitants of the town of Newport were, by an act of this Assembly, passed at the session in October, A. D. 1779, empowered to incorporate themselves; and in the said act all persons of a certain description, to wit: those who had signed the association, or taken an active part with the enemy, should be excluded from electing or being elected to any office in the said town, or of voting or acting in town meeting; and that the town meeting exclude such persons accordingly; and whereas, the term town meeting is construed by some to mean only the meeting had in pursuance of said act,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the persons described as aforesaid, as well as those who have not signed the test, be, and they are hereby, excluded from electing or

being elected to any office within the said town, or of voting or acting in any town meeting in the said town hereafter; and that the town meetings exclude such persons accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to the committee appointed to number and sign the new Continental bills to be issued by this state, or either two of them, the said bills; that after they shall be numbered, signed and delivered to him by the said committee, he deliver the said bills to the committee appointed by Congress to countersign the same on the part of the United States; and upon the same being done by the committee appointed on the part of the state, that they be allowed to draw their fees for the said service out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Charles Holden, Esq., commissary of purchases in this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to Mr. Nicholas Mathewson, one thousand and eighty pounds of raw hides; the same being in full satisfaction of an account by him exhibited for seven pair of boots and one pair of shoes, furnished for the officers of Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment; and that if the said boots and shoes are not accounted for by the said officers, they be charged against the balance due to them respectively, on account of depreciation.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Stephen Potter and Thomas Gorton be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee, to settle and determine the claim of the town of East Greenwich to Joseph N. Remington, enlisted in the town of Warwick, for the class of which James Arnold, Esq., is head; that the party failing to make good its claim, pay the expense thereof; and that if the same shall be determined in favor of the said town of East Greenwich, the said town shall re-pay to the said James Arnold, as head of the said class, the extra bounty that was paid the said recruit, with the expense of recruiting him, to be ascertained by the said committee.

Whereas, this Assembly hath received information, that Matthew Robinson, Esq., of South Kingstown, hath, in his conduct and conversation, publicly manifested principles imical and dangerous to the liberty and independence of the United States of America,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Matthew Robinson be taken into custody by the sheriff of the county of Kings, and committed to the jail in the said county; and be there confined until the further orders of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to deduct £470 15s., lawful money, out of the state taxes assessed upon the town of Newport; the same being the amount of taxes assessed upon the estates of divers absentees in the said town.

It is voted and resolved, that John Reynolds, Esq., agent-clothier in this state, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw £200, in Continental money, of the new emission, out of the general treasury; and that he account for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that Richard Fry and William Channing, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, directed to deliver to the issuing commissary within this state, for the use of the new levies, the corn which they have received, or shall receive, belonging to the state; and that the said Richard Fry sell the cheese and wool in his possession, received on account of the rents of the state's farms, to the best advantage, and pay the money arising from the sale thereof, into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that if any town, or class in any town, shall pay any person, late in the three years' service, the balance due to him or them, on account of depreciation on his or their pay, on his or their re-enlisting into the service for three years, or during the war; such town or class, shall be re-paid the same, in the same manner the other three years' men are paid, with interest thereon, from the time they pay such balance or balances, until paid.

It is voted and resolved, that if the balance due from the persons who purchased the wrecks in the harbor of Newport, be not paid into the general treasury by the time Colonel Israel Angell is ready to go forward to camp, and which he has an order to receive; that he be, and hereby is, empowered to draw the deficiency thereof in equal value, in Continental bills of the new emission, out of the general treasury.

Whereas, divers actions, heretofore commenced in the several courts in this state, have been continued; and during the time the said actions have been pending, the common currency, in which damages are to be recovered, hath so much depreciated, that the sums of the damages laid in the plaintiff's writ and declaration are not adequate to the real damages sustained,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that the courts, juries, arbitrators, &c., in such cases, assess damages as to them shall appear just and equitable, although the same may be more than what is laid in the plaintiff's writ and declaration.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to pay and satisfy the grants made at the present session to John Reynolds, Esq., for the purpose of purchasing clothing, to Colonel Israel Angell, and to Stephen Mumford, Esq., with the first money which shall be signed; and that the other grants made at the present session be not paid until the grants aforesaid be satisfied.

An Act for proportioning to the several towns in this state, and collecting fresh beef for supplying the army of the United States.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to sell the lands that were funded for the redemption of this

state's money, and the certificates issued by the commissary of purchases, be, and they are hereby, directed to dispose of the said lands on the best terms they can, between this and the next session of this Assembly; provided, any persons appear to give near the value of the same; and that they give a credit at their discretion, and make report thereof at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that Stephen Mumford, Esq., be, and he is hereby, directed to give security to the general treasurer, with sufficient surety, in the sum of £2,400, in specie, for the faithful performance of the trust reposed in him, in receiving money from the several towns, for purchasing and receiving beef for the use of this state.

Voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Bennett Wheeler, for printing and advertising .....	1,408 19 00
Samuel Snow, for services as captain in Col. Christopher Greene's regiment	480 00 00
Joseph S. Taylor, for maintaining Hannah Dunn, a pauper .....	162 00 00
Edward Lawton, " " " .....	19 10 00
John Parish, for medicine and refreshments provided for the use of the sick of Col. Christopher Greene's regiment.....	9 14 00
Israel Angell, allowed for his expenses to and from camp .....	30 00 00
John Northup, for his expenses and services in settling the depreciation of wages.....	29 11 04
Esek Hopkins, for the same service .....	31 06 04
Esek Hopkins, for examining into the deficiency of the articles belonging to the Pigot galley .....	3 04 08
William Mumford, for his services and expenses in settling the depreciation of wages .....	23 09 09
Benjamin Bourne, for his services as one of the committee for settling the depreciation of wages.....	3 04 08
Daniel Branch, for his services as waiter on the committee for settling the depreciation of wages.....	17 08 00
Joseph Nightingale, for examining into the deficiency of the articles belong- ing to the Pigot galley .....	3 04 07
Colonel Israel Angell and Captain William Tew, for travelling expenses in settling the accounts of soldiers.....	7 03 05
Nathan Merrill, for boarding and nursing a sick soldier.....	3 15 00
John Jenckes, for attending to survey and sale of the state's farms, &c.....	27 05 03
Thomas Holden, for the same service .....	36 13 07
Governor William Greene, for expenses in sending an express to the com- manding officers of the militia, &c.....	6 17 00

	£ s. d.
Lieutenant Henry Shearman, on account of depreciation of wages .....	120 00 00
Christopher Crandall, for account of depreciation .....	15 00 00
Rufus Sprague, deputy sheriff, on account of warning members of the General Assembly to attend the session in Providence .....	3 00 00
Benoni Hunt, on account of depreciation.....	25 17 03
George Olney, for drawing off the Continental account .....	12 14 01
Preserved Pearce, for repairing the state house in the county of Kent.....	8 00 00
Thomas Rumreill, for paper furnished, and for his attendance on the General Assembly .....	5 01 09
Thomas Spencer, for cleaning the state house, and for his attendance on the General Assembly.....	4 01 11
Abraham Greene, for his attendance as a waiter on the General Assembly..	3 00 00
William Mumford, for his attendance, &c., on the General Assembly.....	6 05 00

God save the United States of America.

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*Proceedings of the Generel Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at South Kingstown, on the fourth Monday in February, 1781.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. William West, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that £3 4s. 9d., in Continental money, of the new emission, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, to Mr. William Taggart, Jr., in full for an account by him exhibited, for his service, in searching after the persons concerned in shooting a sentinel belonging to the French army.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to receive claims against the confiscated estates be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to receive the claims against the estate of Samuel Knowles, which hath been forfeited; and that they inquire into the sums of money which have been paid into and out of the general treasury, on account of the said Samuel Knowles.

It is voted and resolved, that Christopher Ellery, William Hanning, John Jenckes, Henry Marchant, Thomas Rum-

reill and Rowse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they are hereby appointed a committee, to prepare a bill to prevent the trade which is illicitly carried on with the enemy, or persons within their lines; and they devise ways and means for detecting and punishing such offenders, and make report as soon as may be.

The following abstract was presented unto this Assembly, by Mr. John Demount, to wit:

Abstract of beef cattle delivered at Coventry, from several towns in this state, agreeably to an act of the Honorable General Assembly, at their session, held in East Greenwich, in January, A. D. 1781, for raising supplies for the army, and estimated by John Demount, agreeably to the said act, to wit:

Time of delivery.	Towns' names.	Of whom received.	Number of cattle.	Weight estimated.	Prices valued at.	Total amount.
1781.	Providence.....	Welcome Arnold .....	2	1,625	2 00	32 10
Feb. 3.	Smithfield .....	Andrew and Wm. Waterman .	12	8,630	2 00	172 12
" 7.	South Kingstown..	Samuel Babcock.....	11	9,075	2 00	181 10
	North Kingstown..	Sylvester Gardner .....	2	1,250	2 00	25 00
	Scituate .....	John and Peter Cole .....	10	7,100	2 00	142 00
			2	1,100	1 16	19 16
			39	28,780	11 16	573 08

All branded with an anchor.

Errors excepted.

Per JOHN DEMOUNT.

Providence, February 10, 1781.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said abstract be, and the same is hereby, accepted.

It is voted and resolved, that Andrew Craige, of Coventry, be forthwith apprehended and brought before this Assembly, to answer a complaint exhibited against him by Messrs. Jacob Greene and Robert Rogers, for an imposition respecting the enlistment of one Isaac Scranton.

Whereas, it is represented to this Assembly, that a certain lot of land, with a small dwelling-house thereon, lately belonging to Thomas Bannister, is mortgaged for nearly the value thereof, to Mr. Ebenezer Carr; and also, that one

other lot of land, with a dwelling-house thereon, lately belonging to James Clarke, cordwainer, is mortgaged for nearly the value thereof to Mr. Joseph Anthony; which said lots and buildings have been confiscated, and are now in the possession of this state,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that William Channing, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to deliver to the said Ebenezer Carr and the said Joseph Anthony, the possession of the aforesaid lots and buildings to them respectively mortgaged, on the 25th day of March next, at which time the present leases expire; that they hold the same as tenants in mortgage; and that the equity of redemption remain in this state.

An Act for embodying and bringing into the field twelve hundred able-bodied, effective men, of the militia, to serve within this state, for one month, from the time of their rendezvous, and no longer term; and not to be marched out of the same.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

*Officers to command the Battalion of Providence and Kent Counties.*

Nathan Miller, Esq., brigadier general.

George Peck, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the battalion of Providence and Kent.

Job Pearce, Esq., major, of said battalion.

Micah Whitmarsh, —— Sheldon, Jonathan Knight, Squire Millard, John Whipple, Stephen Windsor, William Roy and Daniel Mowry, 4th, captains.

Thomas Olney, Caleb Greene, Mumford Davis, Isaac Paine, Joseph Snow, Jr., Jeremiah Scott, Jr., Nehemiah Burlingame and Elijah Armstrong, lieutenants.

John Carpenter, of Smithfield; John Carpenter, of Providence; Gideon Harris, Joseph Dolliver, Jr. and Zebulon Wade, ensigns.

*Officers to command the Battalion of Newport, Kings and Bristol Counties.*

Nathaniel Church, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant of the battalion of Newport, Kings and Bristol counties.

Jonathan Bates, Jr., Esq., major of said battalion.

Philip Traffan, Lawrence Peirce, Jonathan Devol, Jr., Timothy Lock, Jr., Vial Allen, John Davis, Phineas Maxson and Walter Clarke, captains.

William Belcher, John Wilcox, Jr., Peleg Cross, Jr., Rowse Pearce, Joseph Reynolds, Jr., John Pearce, William Stedman and Joseph Peckham, lieutenants.

\* Robert Dunbar, Thomas Durfee and Stephen Pierce ensigns.

Henry Malcolm, surgeon of Col. Peck's battalion.

Joshua Perry, surgeon of Col. Church's battalion.

*Chief Justice of the Superior Court Chosen.*

Both houses being resolved into a grand committee, chose the Honorable Jabez Bowen, Esq., chief justice of the superior court of judicature, court of assize and general jail delivery, within and throughout the state, in the room of Shearjashub Bourne, Esq., deceased.

It is voted and resolved, that the conduct of His Excellency the Governor, in removing Matthew Robinson, Esq., from the jail, in the county of Kings, and confining him to his own house, considering the condition of the said jail, and the said Matthew Robinson's state of health, be, and the same is hereby, approved.

The petition of William Allen, captain; and Oliver Jenckes, lieutenant, in this state's Continental regiment, preferred unto this Assembly, praying that the committee appointed to set off the estates of absentees, in payment of the balances due to the officers and soldiers of this state's battalions, may be directed to appraise and set off the house

and lot in Providence, lately belonging to Gilbert Deblois, to them, if the same should be confiscated; they paying the sum they shall be appraised at, more than their balances being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted; that the said committee appraise the same; and that upon their being confiscated, they be immediately set off to the said William Allen and Oliver Jenckes, agreeably to the said petition.

Whereas, John Jenckes, Esek Hopkins and Metcalf Bowler, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following receipt of Joseph Clarke, Esq., commissioner of the loan office, to wit:

Providence, February 26, 1781.

Received of Messrs. John Jenckes, Esek Hopkins and Metcalf Bowler (a committee appointed by the Honorable the General Assembly, to receive all the old Continental bills of the general treasurer of this state, and deliver the same to the keeper of the Continental loan office), \$815,684, amounting to £244,705 4s., Continental money, of the old emission, in order to take out money of the new emission of Congress.

815,684 dollars, amount to £244,705 4s.	
40,784 1-5, new emission.	
3-5 is 24,468 dollars and 1-3 .....	£7,340 08 0
Interest on certificates received, is.....	1,122 17 6
Money of the new emission .....	8,463 05 6

JOSEPH CLARKE,  
Commissioner of the loan office.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said receipt be lodged in the secretary's office; and that the same be registered in the records of this state.

Whereas, John Jenckes, Esek Hopkins and Metcalf Bowler, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following receipt, to wit:

Providence, February 10, 1781.

Received of John Jonckes, Esq., Esek Hopkins, Esq., and Metcalf Bowler, a committee appointed by the Honorable General Assembly, at their session in January last, to receive of the keeper of the Continental loan office the interest due on the loan office certificates in the treasury, belonging to this state, the sum of £3,742 and one 81-90ths of

a dollar, in Continental money, of the new emission, which they have lodged in my hands, as general treasurer of the state of Rhode Island, &c., agreeable to said resolve.

JOSEPH CLARKE,  
General Treasurer.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said receipt be lodged in the secretary's office; and that the same be registered in the records of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed and required to give warrants unto the collector or collectors of each and every town within this state, for collecting all the taxes which are in arrear, and for which no warrant hath been given for collecting the same; and that the said warrants be made returnable within twenty days next after the rising of this Assembly, in order that the same, with the interest due thereon, may be forthwith collected and paid into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the following promotions take place in this state's Continental regiments, to wit:

In Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment, that Lieutenant Zephaniah Brown be promoted to the office of a captain; his commission to be dated November 11, 1779; and Lieutenant Daniel S. Dexter to the office of a captain-lieutenant; his commission to bear the same date.

In Colonel Israel Angell's regiment, that Lieutenant Duttee Jerauld be promoted to the office of a captain-lieutenant; his commission to bear date June 24, 1780.

And Ensigns John M. Greene, Joseph Masury and Henry Shearman, be promoted to the offices of lieutenants; the date of their commissions to be ascertained by His Excellency General Washington.

That the secretary be, and he is hereby, directed to give certificates of the promotion of the above named officers to the board of war; and that he date the time of the promotion of all the said officers agreeably to their aforesaid appointments.

Whereas, by an act, passed at the present session, twelve

hundred men of the militia are called forth to do duty within this state, for the space of four weeks; and whereas, it is necessary that measures should be adopted for supplying them with bread, for their subsistence during that time,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the persons hereafter named, be, and they are hereby, appointed to purchase and deliver, as is hereinafter directed, the number of bushels of corn as set against their names, and the names of the towns to which they respectively belong, to wit:

*Quantity of Corn Proportioned to the respective Towns, and the names of the Persons appointed to purchase and deliver it.*

Towns.	Names of persons.	Bushels.
Newport,	Robert Elliott, Esq.,	61
Providence,	James Arnold, Esq.,	92
Portsmouth,	Thomas Shearman, Esq.,	10
Warwick,	Charles Holden, Esq.,	71
Westerly,	Mr. Edward Sanders,	39
North Kingstown,	Mr. Eber Shearman,	60
South Kingstown,	Robert Potter, Esq.,	125
East Greenwich,	Archibald Crary, Esq.,	32
Jamestown,	Mr. John Weeden,	4
Smithfield,	Mr. William Waterman,	83
Scituate,	Mr. John Williams,	76
Glocester,	Mr. Simon Smith,	67
Charlestown,	Gideon Hoxsie, Esq.,	32
West Greenwich,	Mr. George Dyer,	30
Coventry,	Thomas Mathewson, Esq.,	41
Exeter,	Mr. Pardon Tillinghast,	42
Middletown,	Mr. Nicholas Easton,	7
Bristol,	Shearjashub Bourne, Esq.,	26
Tiverton,	John Cooke, Esq.,	45
Little Compton,	Mr. Zebedee Grinnell,	35
Warren,	John Child, Esq.,	16
Cumberland,	Jotham Carpenter, Esq.,	36

Towns.	Names of persons.	Bushels.
Richmond,	Mr. Joseph Tefft,	- - 29
Cranston,	Mr. Matthew Manchester,	- 50
Hopkinton,	Mr. Benjamin Maxson,	- - 35
Johnston,	John Waterman, Esq.,	- 26
North Providence,	Mr. Edward Smith,	- - 18
Barrington.	Mr. Thomas Allen,	- 12
		1,200

And it is further voted and resolved, that the persons aforementioned, cause the corn by them to be purchased as aforesaid, to be ground into meal; and that those persons in the county of Kings deliver the meal by them to be purchased as aforesaid, to Mr. Thomas Bissell, in North Kings-town, or to the commissary of issues; those in the county of Providence, to Mr. Stephen Jenckes, of North Providence, to the issuing commissary, at Providence, or to Mr. Peleg Arnold, of Pawtuxet; those in the county of Kent, to Mr. Christopher Greene, at his mills, at Potowomut; to Mr. Gideon Arnold, of Warwick, or to the said Peleg Arnold; those in the county of Bristol, and of the towns on the island, to the commissary of issues; and those in Tiverton and Little Compton, to the said commissary of issues, or to Mr. Jonathan Devol, of Tiverton.

It is further voted and resolved, that if any persons belonging to any town within this state are in possession of a greater quantity of corn than is necessary for the use of their families, and shall refuse to dispose of the same for the use aforesaid, the persons appointed to procure the same, be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed (if necessary), to take such surplus of corn, allowing the owner thereof the going price for the same.

It is further voted and resolved, that the several towns within this state be, and they are hereby, called upon immediately to advance, to the persons appointed to purchase the corn apportioned and to be purchased within their re-

spective towns, money sufficient to enable them to purchase the corn so apportioned; and in case of delinquency, that such delinquent town be assessed, in the next state tax, at and after the rate of twelve shillings, in gold or silver, for every bushel of corn deficient.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the persons appointed to purchase the said corn, take receipts for the same on the delivery thereof; that the persons appointed to receive the said corn, deliver the same to the orders of the issuing commissary, taking receipts therefor; and that the said receipts be produced to the next session of Assembly, that the quantity of corn delivered and received, may be ascertained.

Upon the representation of the Chevalier Du Bouchet, deputy adjutant general of the army of His Most Christian Majesty in this state, respecting certain deserters from the said army, enlisted into this state's Continental battalions,—

It is voted and resolved, that Christopher Ellery and Wm. Taggart, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to wait upon the said Chevalier Du Bouchet, and to assure him that this Assembly will do every thing to contribute to the service of His Most Christian Majesty and his army; but that John Wallace and Michael Wright, who have enlisted into the Continental service, are engaged for a long time, and are Americans; that if the chevalier, or any of the officers of His Most Christian Majesty, has advanced any money, clothing or other things, to the said two soldiers, the balance due shall be immediately paid by the persons who engaged them for the service; but that it is incompatible with the constitution of these states for soldiers to serve in any other battalions but their own, unless the state they belong to has completed its full quota, which is not at present the case of this state; and that therefore the chevalier must excuse the said soldiers from being turned over to him.

Whereas, the act of this Assembly raising all fees, fines and forfeitures to eighty for one, from the table of fees,

made and passed A. D. 1774, is misconstrued, whereby great evils have arisen,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the town councils in the several towns within this state, shall receive the same fees as pound-money on all inventories presented to them, as is mentioned in and by the said table of fees, made and passed in the year 1774, and no more; that all fees which arise from pound-money, or fees taken by courts or sheriffs, for sums of money, according to the amount thereof, shall be the same as were allowed and taken in the year aforesaid; any law or custom to the contrary notwithstanding; and that this act be published in all the newspapers printed in this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the officers of the regiment under the command of Colonel Christopher Greene be, and they are hereby, directed to advertise the persons who have deserted, or shall desert from the said regiment; that they offer a reward of \$20, in silver money, or other money equivalent, for apprehending and securing such deserters; which, with all reasonable charges that shall accrue thereby, shall be paid out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Matthew Manchester be, and he is hereby, appointed one of the committee to set off and appraise the lands ordered to be set off, in payment of the balance due to the officers and soldiers of this state's Continental battalions, on account of the depreciation of their wages; and that the said committee proceed upon the business, that the same may be completed by the 1st day of April next.

Whereas, divers disputes do arise between the classes within this state, respecting the right which they respectively claim to the soldiers who have enlisted into the Continental battalions, to serve for three years, or during the war; and whereas, some disputes have arisen between the towns, respecting the soldiers who have enlisted as aforesaid; wherefore, for finally settling all disputes which have

arisen or may hereafter arise, upon the account of any soldier enlisting as aforesaid, between any classes or towns,—

It is voted and resolved, that the following gentlemen be, and they are hereby, appointed committees to settle all disputes which may arise upon account of the soldiers aforesaid; that is to say:

Job Easton, William Taggart and John Topham, Esqs., for the county of Newport.

Benoni Pearce, Charles Keen and Arthur Fenner, Jr., Esqs., for the county of Providence.

Gideon Hoxsie, Joseph Stanton, Jr., and Joseph Hoxsie, Esqs., for the county of Kings. And—

Thomas Holden, Christopher Greene and Moses Liippitt, Esqs., for the county of Kent; who are hereby fully authorized and empowered to hear and determine the same finally.

It is further voted and resolved, that if any town or class shall think themselves aggrieved, they may make application to the committee aforesaid, who shall determine the dispute; that the party failing to make proof of their right or claim to such soldier, shall pay all costs and expenses which the said committee shall then adjudge to be due; that the soldier shall be reckoned and counted to the town or class to which he shall be adjudged by the said committee; and that the same determination shall be final.

And it is further voted and resolved, that when it shall so happen, that the committee shall belong to any town within the county which has a dispute with a different town, the same shall be referred to the General Assembly; and that the said committee make report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of Mr. John Fitton, of Providence, preferred unto this Assembly, representing that by an act of this Assembly, the sheriff of the county of Providence, is directed to collect certain debts due to Geo.

Howell, whose estate is declared forfeit to this state ; and that he is indebted to the said Geo. Howell, by note, the time for the payment of which has not yet expired ; and praying for relief, be referred to the next session of this Assembly ; and that in the mean time all proceedings against the said John Fitton be stayed.

It is voted and resolved, that John Child, Esq. and Mr. Thomas Allen be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to consider the petition of Mr. Nathaniel Fales, Jr., preferred to this Assembly, praying that a deduction may be made from the rent of the farm in Bristol, late Wm. Vassall's, hired by him of the state, upon account of the damages he sustained by reason of a number of barracks being erected upon the said farm, and improved as hospitals for His Most Christian Majesty's army and fleet ; and that they make report to this Assembly as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that Matthew Robinson, Esq., be, and he is hereby, permitted to have the liberty of his farm in South Kingstown, until the further order of this Assembly ; he confining himself within the bounds thereof.

It is voted and resolved, that Solomon Southwick, Esq., deputy commissary general of issues in this state, be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to appoint one assistant commissary of issues, during the time the militia called out at the present session, shall be on duty.

Voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz. :

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Major Ebenezer Flagg, for depreciation of wages,	\$150 00.
Captain William Humphrey,        "        "	\$120 00.
William Davis, sheriff of the county of Newport, authorized to draw out of the general treasury on account .....	50 00 00
Benjamin Bourne, deputy quartermaster general, on account, fourteen hun- dred Continental dollars.	
Beriah Waite, for services in carrying divers acts of the General Assembly to the several towns in the county of Kings.....	6 10 00

	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Ebenezer Tefft, for attendance on the General Assembly as a waiter.....	5 08 00
David Douglass,      "      "      "      "      " .....	3 05 00
William Mumford, for service as deputy secretary.....	6 12 10
Rowse J. Helme, for settling certain claims.....	9 18 09
Daniel Branch, for attending certain committees .....	6 00 00

God save the United States of America.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of Connecticut, relative  
to the admission of Vermont, as a State, into the Union  
of the United States of America.*

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of the state of Connecticut,  
holden at Hartford (by special order of the Governor), on the 21st day of February,  
Anno Domini 1781,—

Resolved by this Assembly, that the commissioners who are, or may be, appointed on  
the part of this state to meet the commissioners from the other three New England states,  
and the state of New York, in convention to be holden at Providence, at the call of His  
Excellency the Governor of Connecticut, be instructed, in addition to the commission  
ready given them by this Assembly, to propose as a subject of consideration in said con-  
vention, the request of the people calling themselves the state of Vermont, to be admit-  
ted into union and confederation with the thirteen United States of America, as a free  
and independent state; and report their doings, consultations and conclusions thereon,  
to this Assembly.

And it is further resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby,  
desired, as soon as may be, to notify the several states expected to meet by their com-  
missioners, in said convention, of the above resolution, in order that said states may, if  
they see proper, make similar enlargements of instructions to their commissioners; and  
His Excellency the Governor is further desired to make a call of said convention as  
early as possible.

A true copy of record; examined by—

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secr'y.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly, for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at South Kingstown, on the third Monday in March, 1781.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. William West, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that Major William Perkins, be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver unto the order of Count Rochambeau fifteen cannon belonging to the state, of twenty-four and eighteen pounds, if so many are to be found, for the use of the French army, in the fortifications in this state; taking a receipt for the number of cannon and carriages he shall deliver; and that he make a return to this Assembly of all the military stores belonging to this state in his possession.

It is further voted and resolved, that Benjamin Bourne, Esq., assistant deputy quartermaster, be, and he is hereby, directed to repair the powder-house in Providence, and the store upon Colonel Knight Dexter's farm, in such a manner that they will be suitable to store powder in; as the said buildings are to be appropriated for the use of the French army.

It is voted and resolved, that Freeman Perry, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed assistant secretary, during the present session.

It is voted and resolved, that William Bradford and Joseph Hoxsie, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to settle, ascertain and fix a permanent division and bound the lines between the Indian land, and that occupied by the white inhabitants of this state, in Charlestown, agreeably to the rules of right and justice.

It is voted and resolved, that the following sums of money be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, in gold or

silver, to the hereinafter mentioned officers, as set against their names respectively, to wit :

	£	s.	d.
To Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney,	-	-	18 00 0
" Capt. Coggeshall Olney,	-	-	36 00 0
" Capt. William Allen,	-	-	36 00 0
" Lieut. Ebenezer Macomber,	-	-	24 06 0
" Lieut. Oliver Jenckes,	-	-	24 06 0
" Ensign John Morley Green,	-	-	18 00 0
" Lieut. Chandler Burlingame,	-	-	7 17 4
" Ensign Joseph Masury,	-	-	18 00 0
" Ensign William Pratt,	-	-	18 00 0
" Ensign Jeremiah Greenman,	-	-	17 05 3

The said sums being in part of money due to them, on account of the depreciation of their wages.

Whereas, by an act of this Assembly, passed at the session in July, A. D. 1780, the committees in the several towns in this state, who were appointed to class the inhabitants, for raising the men ordered to be raised for six months, from the 1st day of said July, are not vested with sufficient power to collect the assessments which they have made upon the said classes,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that the said committees, and the several collectors in this state be, and they are hereby, vested with the same powers for assessing and collecting, and under the same penalties, as the committees and collectors are by an act of this Assembly, passed at the session in November last, for raising recruits; and that the said committees proceed to assess all such classes as neglect to pay, and cause the same to be collected, in manner as aforesaid, as soon as possible.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of the inhabitants of the town of Scituate, in town meeting assembled, praying that the said town may be divided into two towns,

be referred to the next session ; and that the said town pay all the expenses that shall arise upon the said petition.

Whereas, John Jenckes, Metcalf Bowler and Esek Hopkins, Esqs., who were appointed a committee to receive money, &c., of the general treasurer, and burn the same, &c., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit :

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly to cancel or burn certain paper money, &c., received of the General Treasurer.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed by the Honorable General Assembly, a committee to receive of Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer, the lawful money bills emitted by this state, four per cent. notes, and other notes, securities and certificates, that have been issued by the state, and paid into the general treasurer's office, and burn or cancel the same ; also to receive the interest due on the Continental loan office certificates now in the treasury, the property of the state, and pay the same into the Continental loan office, and receive the amount in Continental money of the new emission, and all the old Continental money paid into the treasury on account of taxes, &c., and pay the same into the Continental loan office, and take out the amount in Continental money of the new emission, on account of this state's proportion, do report :

That we have received, carefully counted, endorsed and burnt, of the several emissions of lawful money, four per cent. and other notes, certificates and securities, the following sums ; have also received the interest due on the Continental loan office certificates ; as also this state's proportion of the new emission Continental money for the sum of old Continental money by us received of the general treasurer, and paid into the Continental loan office, as per receipts lodged in the secretary's office.

	£ s. d.
Bills emitted A. D. 1775, 1776 and 1777 .....	18,912 09 02
Interest included.	
Bills emitted A. D. 1775 and 1776, being the amount of three hundred and eighty-four notes, issued A. D. 1778, payable in three years, with interest at six per cent. per annum .....	7,040 04 11
Bills emitted A. D. 1777, as small change, May session.....	1,647 18 00
Bills emitted June, A. D. 1780, received into the treasury on account of the state tax, July session.....	7,009 13 05
Interest thereon.....	98 18 02
Bills emitted June, A. D. 1780, received into the treasury on account of the sale of the Borland farm.....	3,365 17 00
Interest thereon .....	91 13 09
Bills of the old Cotinental emission, received on account of taxes, &c., and paid into the Continental loan office, in order to take out this state's proportion of the new emission of Continental money, eight hundred and seventy-one thousand five hundred and sixty-eight old Continental dollars ; amounting to .....	61,470 08 00

	<i>L s. d.</i>
Seven hundred and sixty eight notes, of four per cent., received into the treasury without interest, amounting to .....	4,170 10 00
Six hundred and nineteen notes, of four per cent., amounting to, prin- cipal.....	3,009 12 00
Interest thereon .....	98 10 09
Eighty-eight notes, given by the treasurer to divers persons, for ne- groes enlisted into Col. Greene's battalion, by act of Assembly, February session, A. D. 1778 ; principal .....	9,958 00 00
Interest thereon.....	479 07 07
Three hundred and sixty-four notes, of £30 each, issued by order of the council of war, bearing date March 11, A. D. 1779 ; principal 10,920 00 00	
Interest thereon .....	133 07 00
Nine hundred and eighty-seven notes, of £10 each, issued by act of As- sembly, June session, A. D. 1779 ; principal .....	9,870 00 00
Interest thereon .....	102 13 08
Three thousand notes, of £10 each, signed by the treasurer, but never issued out of his office .....	30,000 00 00
Twenty-five purchasing commissary's certificates, received into the treasury on account of the sales of the Vassal, Wanton, Rome and Lawton farms .....	6,204 18 09
Two hundred and twenty-five Continental loan office certificates, bear- ing date May and July, A. D. 1778, amounting to, principal \$94,000.	
Interest received thereon in the new emission Continental money for two years, and endorsed on the certificates, \$3,742 66.	
Two Continental certificates, bearing date June 27, A. D. 1780, received into the treasury from Hazard Champlin, on account of South Kingstown rates, \$1,500.	
One certificate from Nathaniel Norton, A. D. C. F., for a tax levied on Point Judith farm, dated February 22, A. D. 1780, for the sum of 1,128 00 09	
One certificate from Robert Crooke, Esq., deputy quartermaster gener- al, in favor of Giles Sanford, received by order of Assembly, on ac- count of Middletown tax, July, A. D. 1780, amounting to.....	558 00 00
Bills emitted A. D. 1775, 1776 and 1777, interest included, burnt.....	18,912 09 02 14
Bills admitted A. D. 1775 and 1776, for three hundred and eighty-four notes issued, to call those bills out of circulation payable in three years, with interest, at six per cent. burnt .....	704 04 11
	£19,616 14 1 1-4
Bills emitted June, 1780, state tax, July, 1780 ; principal, burnt.....	7,009 13 05 3-4
Interest thereon .....	93 18 02 1-4
Bills emitted June, 1780 ; sale of Borland farm .....	3,365 17 00
Interest thereon.....	91 13 09 1-2
	£10,561 02 6 1-4

Bills emitted May, 1777, for small change, burnt.....	1,647 13 00
Bills of the old Continental emission, taken out of circulation, and paid by the state into the Continental loan office; and money of the new emission received for the amount of eight hundred and seventy-one thousand five hundred and sixty-eight Continental dollars.	
Seven hundred and sixty-eight notes, of four per cent., received, with no interest.....	4,177 10 00
	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Six hundred and nineteen notes, of four per cent., principal, burnt.....	3,009 12 0
Interest thereon .....	298 10 9 1-4
	<hr/>
	£7,485 12 9 1-4
Eighty-eight notes given for slaves, February, 1778;	
principal, burnt .....	9,958 00 0
Interest thereon .....	479 07 7
	<hr/>
	10,437 07 07
Three hundred and sixty-four notes, of £30 each, issued by order of the council of war, dated March 11, A. D. 1779; principal.....	10,920 00 0
Interest thereon .....	133 07 0
	<hr/>
	11,053 07 00
Nine hundred and eighty-seven notes, of £10 each, issued June. 1779; principal .....	9,870 00 0
Interest thereon .....	102 13 8
Three thousand notes, of £10 each; signed, but not issued, burnt .....	30,000 00 0
	<hr/>
	39,972 13 08
Twenty-five purchasing commissary's certificates, received for sale of Vassall's, Wanton's, Lawton's and Rome's farms.....	
	6,204 18 9
Two hundred and twenty-five Continental loan certificates, the property of the state, dated July and May, 1780; principal, \$94,000.....	28,200 00 0
Two Continental certificates, dated June 27, 1780....	450 00 0
	<hr/>
	28,650 00 00
Two years' interest received on the above, in the new emission, \$3,742 66-72 .....	
	1,122 10 00
Old Continental bills paid into the loan office, and received in the new emission, \$43,578 1-3; state's 3-5ths thereof, \$26,147 .....	
	7,844 02 00
	<hr/>
	£8,966 12 00
	JOHN JENCKES, M. BOWLER, ESEK HOPKINS.

Providence, March 19, 1781.

State of Rhode Island, &amp;c.

Dr.

1781.

£ s. d.

To our time, expenses, &c., in attending, each thirty-nine days, at the general treasurer's office, to audit the treasurer's accounts; receiving, counting, burping and cancelling the lawful money bills, four per cent., and other notes and securities; also receiving the interest due on Continental loan office certificates, all the old Continental bills paid into the treasury, &c.; paying the same into the Continental loan office, and receiving the amount in Continental bills of the new emission, at twenty-four shillings per day, in the new emission..... £140 08 0

JOHN JENCKES,

M. BOWLER,

ESEK HOPKINS.

Providence, March 19, 1781.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be accepted; that the said account be allowed; and that the amount thereof, being £140 8s., in Continental bills, of the new emission, be paid unto the said John Jenckes, Metcalf Bowler and Esek Hopkins, out of the general treasury.

Whereas, this state did heretofore furnish the several towns therein, with a quantity of iron and flour, at a stipulated price; and whereas, the towns of Westerly, South Kingstown, Cumberland, Gloucester, Johnston, Coventry, West Greenwich, Richmond, Hopkinton, Exeter, Warren, Barrington and Little Compton, have neglected to settle and pay for the same,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the secretary forthwith furnish the towns aforesaid, with a copy of the act for distributing the said iron and flour; that the said towns pay into the general treasury the amount of the sums due from them respectively, at the value of the money, fixing it at the time they received the said iron and flour, agreeably to the act affixing a scale of depreciation; and that the secretary furnish the general treasurer, and the said towns, with a copy of this resolve.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of divers inhabitants of the towns of Scituate and Gloucester, praying to be set off from the said towns, and incorporated into a township, be referred to the next session; that the said towns be notified to appear at the next session, to show cause (if

any they have) why the same should not be granted; and that the petitioners pay all the expenses that shall arise upon the said petition.

Whereas, the following receipt was presented unto this Assembly, to wit:

Providence, March 17, 1781.

Received of John Jenckes, Esek Hopkins and Metcalf Bowler, Esqs., a committee appointed by the Honorable General Assembly, fifty-five thousand eight hundred and eighty-four Continental dollars, of the old emission; amounting to £16,765 4s., lawful money, in order to deliver out money of the new emission of Congress.

JOSEPH CLARKE,  
Commissioner of the loan office.

\$55,884.

£16,765 4s., lawful money.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be lodged in the secretary's office, upon the files of the state.

Whereas, Mrs. Sarah Wanton, widow of Col. Joseph Wanton, late of Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that her said husband died on the 8th day of August last, leaving her and an infant son, without having made any special provision for their support; that she depended upon the income of his real estate therefor; but the same has been taken possession of by the state; that upon her marriage with the said Joseph Wanton, she added a considerable fortune to his, without any settlement being made on her for the same; and that she is now reduced to difficulty and distress for the necessaries of life; and thereupon prayed this Assembly that the farm upon Jamestown, lately belonging to her said husband, together with the small island near the same, commonly called Gould Island, may be given up for the support of herself and son; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to lease confiscated estates, lease the said farm and island in the usual way; and at the end of the ensuing year pay the rents of the same to the said Sarah Wanton; and that Wm.

Channing, Esq., one of the said committee, pay unto the said Sarah Wanton the value of the rents which he has received for the said farm and island, for the last year, as soon as he shall receive cash for rents due to the state.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee who were heretofore appointed to sell and dispose of, at public vendue or private sale, the real estates which have been confiscated, and which were funded for the redemption of the lawful bills emitted by this state in June last, and for securing the payment of the certificates issued by the purchasing commissary of this state, be, and they are hereby, directed and required to cause the said estates forthwith to be advertised for sale, either by public vendue or private sale; and in case the said estates shall not be disposed of by such time as the said committee shall judge proper for renting them out, that they proceed to lease the same to suitable tenants, for gold or silver only; and advertise the same accordingly.

Whereas, in a petition preferred unto this Assembly at the present session, by Mr. Nathaniel Greene, some mistake was suggested in the adjustment of an account exhibited by Othniel Gorton, Esq., to the committee appointed to class the men in the town of Warwick; which said petition was received and referred, and the said Othniel Gorton was ordered to be cited to appear at the next session to answer the same; and whereas, the said Nathaniel Greene was consenting to the re-committing the said account to the same committee, and the said Othniel Gorton hath appeared before this Assembly and acquiesced therein,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that all proceedings of the said committee already had, relative to the said account, be declared null and void; that the said committee again examine the said account, and hear the parties thereon; that when adjusted, if upon notice thereof, the said Nathaniel Greene shall neglect to pay the sum which shall be found due, the said committee be, and they are hereby, directed to issue their warrant for collecting the sum which

shall be due, in manner as is directed in the act for classing and detaching as aforesaid; and the said parties are hereby discharged from giving any further attendance upon the said petition; anything in the resolution passed thereon, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Whereas, John Beverly, Esq., sheriff of the county of Providence, presented unto this Assembly, the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Sheriff of Providence County, relative to certain payments due from George Howell.*

In pursuance of an act of the General Assembly, passed at the session in January last, I have received of Mr. John Fitton, three hundred Spanish milled dollars, in part of what he owes George Howell, upon a negotiable note of hand.

Of Mr. Samuel Young, one hundred and forty dollars, like money; of Mr. John Thurston, forty-eight dollars, two shillings and sixpence, like money; of Mr. Joseph Parker, fifty-eight dollars, like money; which sums, together with two hundred and eleven dollars, like money, I had in my hands, the property of the said George Howell, I have paid unto Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer; the same amounting to £227 4s. 9d.

JOHN BEVERLY, Sheriff.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted.

Whereas, John Beverly, Esq., who was directed by this Assembly, at the session in January last, to receive of John Jenckes, Esq., cheese to the amount of \$200, in specie, agreeably to a contract entered into between the said John Jenckes, and George Howell; and to sell the same, and pay the money into the general treasury, reported unto this Assembly as follows, to wit:

January 27, A. D. 1781.

Received of John Jenckes, Esq., sixteen hundred weight of cheese, at ninepence per pound, and sold the same to Messrs. John Brown, Welcome Arnold and Joseph Nightingale, at sevenpence half penny per pound; the whole amounting to £50, in specie.

JOHN BEVERLY, Sheriff.

February 3, 1781.

Received of John Beverly, Esq., the above sum of £50, in gold and silver.

JOSEPH CLARKE,  
General Treasurer.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted.

It is voted and resolved, that the subject-matter of a petition, preferred unto this Assembly by Mr. Stephen Potter, respecting stock he purchased of William Gorton, and a suit commenced against him by the state therefor, &c., be, and the same is hereby, submitted to the final judgment and determination of William Taggart, William Richmond and George Irish, Esqs., who are hereby fully empowered and directed to inquire into the same, and make report of their doings unto this Assembly, at the next session.

Whereas, William Littlefield, heretofore a captain-lieutenant, in the pay of this state, in the service of the United States, has had his account for depreciation audited, and a considerable balance was found due to him; and whereas, this Assembly were induced to do the strictest justice to the officers and soldiers serving in the Continental army, from every principle of right; but more especially, as they conceived the persons entering into the said service, did it from motives of acting for the good of their country; and whereas, it appears that the said William Littlefield being lost to all ties of honor and duty which he owed unto this state as a citizen, and an officer in its service, has, from principles derogatory to virtue and honor, held a correspondence with persons who have entered largely into a trade with those who were in the immediate power of the enemy; and has thereby introduced the manufactures of Great Britain into this country, and supplied them with articles of which they were in want,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the name of the said William Littlefield be, and it is hereby, ordered to be struck out of the list of those officers and soldiers who are to be paid depreciation; and that he be, and hereby is, declared incapable to receive the same, or any part thereof.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition preferred unto this Assembly, by Thomas Clarke, of Newport, respecting the estate lately belonging to Jahleel Brenton, which he hired of this state for the last year, by his consent, be, and the same is hereby, submitted to the final determination of Messrs. William Taggart, Robert Elliott and William Richmond, who are hereby fully empowered to settle and determine the same, and make report thereof to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, the new emission of the Continental currency emitted by this state, bears date on the 2d day of July last; and as none of the said money was put into circulation until January last; and but a small quantity of it then, the reckoning and accounting the interest upon the said bills from the time of the date will be detrimental to the public,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that interest shall be computed, reckoned and allowed, from the 1st day of April, A. D. 1781, upon all the bills of the said emission issued by this state, and not from an earlier period; any law, custom or usage, to the contrary, notwithstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee heretofore appointed to appraise and set off to the officers and soldiers in the Continental army, in the pay of this state, the confiscated estates, in part of their depreciation money, proceed to appraise a lot of land lying in Bristol, containing four acres, lately the property of Isaac Royal, Esq.; and that the same, upon its being confiscated, be set off to the said officers and soldiers who have depreciation money due unto them from this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the following commissioned and non-commissioned officers in the Continental army, in the pay of this state, be, and they are hereby, empowered to receive out of the general treasury the several sums that are herein expressed, in gold or silver, in part of their depreciation money due from this state, to wit:

*Payments made to sundry Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers.*

	£	s.	d.
Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney,	36	00	0
Doctor Samuel Tenny,	54	00	0
Sergeant Esel Dexter,	9	00	0
Sergeant James Hopkins,	9	00	0
Sergeant Job Sheldon,	9	00	0
Sergeant John Dodge,	9	00	0
Sergeant Seth Fisher,	9	00	0
Samuel Drown, drummer,	6	12	0
Thomas Mitchell, fifer,	6	12	0

It is voted and resolved, that the following officers in the Continental army, be, and they are hereby, empowered to receive out of the general treasury, in gold or silver, the sums hereinafter expressed, towards paying their depreciation accounts, to wit:

*Payments made to sundry Officers in the Continental Army.*

	£	s.	d.
Col. Henry Sherburne,	67	10	0
Col. Israel Angell,	67	10	0
Lieut. Col. Samuel Ward,	54	00	0
Major William Bradford,	45	00	0
Major Simeon Thayer,	45	90	0
Capt. William Tew,	36	00	0
Capt. Elijah Lewis;	36	00	0
Capt. Thomas Arnold,	36	00	0

And that they be requested not to receive the said money, until the officers who are going forward to the army have their orders first paid.

Whereas, this Assembly did, at the session in November last, assess upon the estates and polls of the inhabitants of

this state a tax of £16,000, lawful money, to be paid in gold or silver, only ; and whereas, the assessors of taxes in the town of South Kingstown have assessed upon the farm lying on Point Judith, the sum of £93 8s. 9d., to be paid in gold or silver, which farm is improved by this state ; and whereas, this Assembly did at the said session order a tax of £1,000,000, lawful money, to be paid in Continental bills of the old emission ; of which sum the said assessors did assess upon the said farm £5,899 8s. ; and whereas, the said town of South Kingstown, did on the 15th day of December, A. D. 1780, order a town tax for defraying the charges of the said town, of which £1,243 2s., in Continental money, was assessed by the said assessors upon the said farm ; all which sums are due and unpaid,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to discount with Mr. Daniel Shearman, Jr., the collector of taxes for the said town, the said sum of £93 8s. 9d., in gold or silver, with the interest and fees due for collecting the same ; and also the said sum of £5,899 8s., in Continental bills of the old emission ; together with the interest and fees for collecting the same, which shall be accounted as so much paid in part of the said town's proportion of the said two taxes ; and that he pay unto the said Daniel Shearman the said sum of £1,243 2s., in Continental money of the old emissions, with the fees and interest for the said town tax.

It is voted and resolved, that Benjamin Peckham, Gideon Hoxsie and Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to finally settle and determine the dispute which now subsists between the town of Scituate and the class in the town of Providence, whereof Amos Atwell, Esq., is the head, respecting a recruit to serve in the Continental army for three years or during the war ; and that they make report to this Assembly at the present session.

Whereas, Colonel Richard Fry, who was appointed to lease the estate of Joseph Hunt and Joseph Hunt, Jr., the

last year, leased the same unto the said Joseph Hunt, Jr., for two years, for two tons of good hay, to be delivered at East Greenwich ; and whereas, the said hay has been taken by the collector of taxes for the tax of the said Joseph Hunt, whereby he is rendered unable to pay the said rent, and support his aged father,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Joseph Hunt, Jr., appropriate the said rent and the future rent of the said farm towards the support of his said father, until the further order of this Assembly ; and that the same be under the inspection of the said Richard Fry.

It is voted and resolved, that £1,520 12s., in Continental bills of the old emissions, and £59 13s., in gold or silver ; together with the interest and fees for collecting the same, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, to Mr. William Borden, collector of taxes for the town of Newport ; the same being the amount of the taxes assessed upon the estates of George Rome, Joseph Wanton, William Wanton, John Mawdfley, Stephen Deblois, Ackurs Sisson and Joseph Durfee, absentees.

Whereas, Messrs. John Child and Thomas Allen presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit :

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly relative to claims by Nathaniel Fales, Jr., for certain damages.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed by the Honorable the General Assembly, to inquire into the damages sustained by Mr. Nathaniel Fales, Jr., by reason of an hospital's being erected for the French troops upon the farm he hired of this state, do estimate the same at £58 10s., to be deducted out of his rent at the stated prices he was to pay the said rent in.

JOHN CHILD,  
THOMAS ALLEN.

March 23, A. D. 1781.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted ; and that the said sum of £58 10s., be deducted from the rents of the said Nathaniel Fales, Jr., at the stated

prices, in full compensation of all damages he has received.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Rufus Spencer, Jeremiah Whipple and Christopher Greene, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to consider and ascertain the damages which have been done upon the state's farm, late Gervas Elam's, in North Kingstown, by Mr. John Howland, the late tenant thereof; that the said committee also take into consideration the damages which the said John Howland has sustained by having public horses put on the said farm, or otherwise; that they make such allowances and considerations for the said damages respectively as to them shall appear equitable and just; and that they make report as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that Henry Marchant, William Taggart and William Channing, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draught a letter to the delegates of this state, instructing them to move in Congress that some adequate allowance may be made to the inhabitants of this state for the houses, stores, &c., furnished by them for the use of the French army, in such manner as the wisdom of Congress shall devise; and that they make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

Whereas, the committee appointed by this Assembly, to set off unto Mr. Edward Kitchen Wolcott a part of the Point Farm (so called), have reported an agreement signed by the said Edward K. Wolcott, and the committee aforesaid, agreeing to a certain part of the said farm to be allotted unto the said Edward K. Wolcott, agreeably to a plat of the same made by Caleb Harris, Esq., and presented to this Assembly,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Caleb Harris proceed and run the line, and make sufficient monuments, butts and land-marks thereon, to discriminate between the land held by the state, and the land to be holden by the said Edward K. Wolcott, agreeably to the said plat.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed the last year to lease out the estates of the absentees, be, and they are hereby, appointed to lease the same for the present year to suitable tenants, for gold or silver only ; saving the Point Farm (so called), in South Kingstown, which the committee aforesaid, are to let at their discretion, either for money or labor, to be done upon the said farm ; taking special care that the tenant or tenants upon the said farm shall pay all the taxes and assessments for the year ensuing ; and that they rent the estates aforesaid, either at public vendue, or by private contract, as will be most beneficial to the state.

Whereas, William Channing, Esq., attorney general of this state, represented unto this Assembly, that divers reports were propagated and circulated within this and the neighboring states, tending to injure him in his character as a public officer and good citizen, respecting his conduct in regard to the prosecution of the persons who were concerned in the illicit trade to Long Island and Block Island, and prayed that an inquiry might be made therein ; and this Assembly having made full inquiry into the conduct of the said William Channing, and the reports propagated tending to injure his reputation, do find,—

That the said reports are entirely false and groundless ; and this Assembly do highly approve of the said William Channing's conduct with respect to the indefatigable pains he has taken, in order to trace out the persons who have been concerned in that pernicious trade.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. William Taggart, Christopher Ellery and William Langley, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to make inquiry into an information exhibited to this Assembly, respecting a quantity of sea-coal, and a public magazine, which the enemy left in the stores of Mr. Thomas Freebody, which (it is said) he applied to his own use ; and that they make report thereof to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, it appears to this Assembly, that Andrew

Craige, of Coventry, did impose upon the class in the said town, whereof Mr. Robert Rogers was head, by furnishing a recruit for the said class, who was a slave; that after the said slave had passed muster, his state of slavery being unknown to the muster-master, he was demanded by his master, and delivered up, whereby this state has been deprived of a recruit,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Andrew Craige be, and he is hereby, required to furnish a good, able-bodied effective recruit, to serve for three years, or during the war, in this state's Continental battalion, to be mustered by the muster-master on or before the 10th day of April next, without any expense to this state, or to the said class; and in case of default thereof, that the whole of the said Andrew Craige's estate be taken into custody by the sheriff of the county of Kent, to and for the use of this state.

Whereas, Messrs. Benjamin Peckham, John Chapman and Gideon Hoxsie, presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report.*

The subscribers being appointed by the General Assembly, to determine a dispute between the town of Scituate and a class in Providence, respecting a recruit to serve for three years, or during the war, having heard the parties, are of opinion that James Gordon, the said recruit, belongs to the said class in Providence, and report the same accordingly.

March 26, 1781.

B. PECKHAM,  
JOHN CHAPMAN,  
GIDEON HOXSIE.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; that the said James Gordon be held and accounted as a recruit for the town of Providence; and that the said town of Scituate forthwith furnish a recruit, to serve in the Continental service for three years, or during the war.

Additional Act for filling this state's battalion.  
[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

It is voted and resolved, that Metcalf Bowler, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to draw duplicates of all the accounts that have been sent forward to Congress; and also to draw out and complete the accounts which this state has against the United States; and that he be allowed for his services nine shillings in specie, or other money equivalent, for each day that he shall be employed in the said business.

It is voted and resolved, that Christopher Ellery, Thomas Rumreill, Benjamin Peckham and Rowse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they or the major part of them, are hereby appointed a committee, to audit the accounts of Charles Holden, Esq., commissary general of purchases in this state; and that they make report to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, Messrs. Rufus Spencer, Jeremiah Whipple and Christopher Greene, presented unto this Assembly, the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
relative to an Account for Damages between John How-  
land and the State.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed by the Honorable the General Assembly, to settle the accounts of damages between Mr. John Howland and the state, while he was tenant on the Elam farm, beg leave to report:

That we have carefully examined the accounts and vouchers, and find a balance due to the said John Howland, of £15 in specie.

the said John Howland, of 3210, in specie.  
All which is submitted by your humble servants,

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; and that the said sum of £15, be deducted out of the judgment which this state hath recovered against the said John Howland.

Whereas, this Assembly did heretofore direct that Matthew Robinson, Esq., of South Kingstown, should be committed unto the jail in the said town, until the further

order of this Assembly; and whereas, the said Matthew Robinson hath been had before this Assembly, and examined touching the matters whereof he stood charged,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Matthew Robinson be, and he is hereby, discharged from his said confinement; that he be, and he is hereby, restored to all the privileges and liberties which he before enjoyed; and that he appear before this Assembly, at the next session, if required.

Whereas, William Bradford, Esq., presented unto this Assembly an account of the money and articles received for the rents of the estates taken possession of by this state, and leased by him, from March 25th, A. D. 1779, to March 25th, 1780, for articles of produce, as specified in the respective leases; and the sale of the articles, of which the following is a statement, to wit:

*Report of William Bradford, appointed by the General Assembly, relative to the Leasing, &c., of certain Estates belonging to the State.*

	£ s. d.
The farm in Exeter, belonging to Samuel Boone; leased to Mr. Michael Dawley, for .....	91 00 0
The several articles of produce, to the amount of the rent, were delivered agreeably to the lease, by orders of the General Assembly, for the use of the troops; excepting that there was an over-charge of seventy-two pounds of beef, delivered to Colonel Richard Fry, at threepence per pound, which sum still remains due from the said Michael Dawley.	
The farm in Bristol, lately belonging to William Vassal; leased to Mr. Nathaniel Fales, Jr., for.....	153 00 0
The rent was paid in manner as aforesaid; excepting three hundred and thirty-six pounds of wool, at two shillings and twopence per pound, delivered to the said William Bradford.	
The farm in Bristol, lately belonging to John Borland; leased to Mr. Wm. Pearse, for .....	80 00 0
The rent was paid in manner as aforesaid; excepting forty-six pounds and one-quarter of wool, at two shillings and twopence per pound, delivered to the said Wm. Bradford.	
The farm in Tiverton, lately belonging to Andrew Oliver; leased to Messrs. Isaac Manchester and Thomas Carey, for .....	175 09 0
Wool to the amount of the rent, was sold by the tenants, by order of the General Assembly, and the money paid into the treasury; excepting seven hundred and fifty pounds and three-quarters of wool, at two shillings and twopence per pound, delivered to the said William Bradford.	

	<i>£ s. d.</i>
The lot of land in Tiverton, belonging to Mr. Stephen Ayrault; leased to Mr. Gilbert Devol, for.....	6 10 0
Corn to the amount of the rent was delivered, by order of the General Assembly, for the use of the troops.	
The house and lot of land in Providence, lately belonging to Gilbert De-bloise; leased to Mr. James Hill, for.....	16 00 0
Old Continental money, at the rate of sixty for one, to the amount of the rent, was paid into the general treasury, by order of the General Assembly.	
The shop in Providence, lately belonging to Mr. Jonathan Simpson; leased to Mr. John Mumford, for.....	4 05 0
The rent received in old Continental money, at seventy-two for one, by the said William Bradford.	
The lot of land lying in South Kingstown, lately belonging to John Bor-land; leased to Mr. Thomas Gardner, for.....	20 00 0
The rent was paid in articles of produce, delivered for the use of the troops, by order of the General Assembly.	
The farm in North Kingstown, lately belonging to George Wightman; leased to Mr. Matthew Manchester, for.....	41 00 0
The rent was paid in manner as aforesaid; excepting that the said William Bradford, by order of the General Assembly, received old Continental money for twenty-two and three-quarters bushels of corn, at \$25 per bushel.	
The farm in North Kingstown, lately belonging to Gervas Elam; leased to Mr. John Howland, from March 25th, A. D. 1778, to March 25th, A. D. 1779, for.....	90 00 0
The said William Bradford sued the lease, and recovered £1,267 16s., old Continental money, which was paid into the general treasury, by the sheriff of the county of Newport.	

We, the subscribers, being appointed by the Honorable General Assembly, to settle the accounts of William Bradford, Esq., for the rents of the sequestered estates, do report:

That we have carefully examined the same; and that there is a balance due from him to the state, in old Continental money, of £51 6d.

JOHN JENCKES,  
METCALF BOWLER,  
Committee.

March 27th, 1781.

And the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the aforesaid report be, and the same is hereby, accepted; and that the aforesaid balance of £51 6d., old Continental money, be paid by the said William Bradford, into the general treasury.

Whereas, a number of the inhabitants of the town of Hopkinton, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that there is a highway from Pawcatuck Bridge,

in Westerly, laid through said Westerly and Hopkinton, in a direct course to Providence; that the same will be beneficial to the public, if extended in its course through the other towns; and thereupon prayed that a committee may be appointed to examine the same; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Stephen Potter, Jonathan Comstock, John Chapman and Benjamin Maxson, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee, to inspect into the highway proposed to be laid out, with the distances, and the land through which the same is to run, and to whom it belongs; that they make report to this Assembly at the next session; and that no expense accrue to the state thereby.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Thomas Rumreill, Welcome Arnold, Benjamin Peckham, William Bradford and Stephen Potter, be, and they or the major part of them are hereby, appointed a committee to re-examine all the estimates and calculations which have been made for proportioning the taxes which have been assessed upon the inhabitants of this state, for two years past; that the several towns within this state be, and they are hereby, required to furnish the said committee with the rolls, that have been made out by the committee of five; that each town furnish the said committee with an exact and true copy of the rate-bills for proportioning the tax assessed in June, A. D. 1779, for raising the sum of £225,000; the rate-bill for proportioning the tax assessed in July last, for raising the sum of £400,000; and the rate-bill for assessing the tax of £1,000,000, upon the inhabitants of this state; that the said committee proceed and endeavor to proportion the value of each and every town within this state, that a due and equal proportion of the taxes may be laid upon the several towns, according to their respective abilities to pay the same; that each town that apprehends itself to be overburthened in proportion, have liberty at the expense of such town to appoint a person to meet the said committee at such time and place as they shall appoint; that all petitions presented to

this Assembly respecting taxation be referred; that each and every town may present to the said committee any petition for grievances respecting taxation, which the said committee are to inquire into; and that they make report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the Honorable William West, Esq., William Bradford and Esek Hopkins, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to meet the commissioners from the other New England states, and the state of New York, in convention, to be holden in Providence, on the 12th day of April next, for the purpose of consulting and devising ways and means that Congress may be invested with power to collect and raise a permanent fund for the paying, clothing and supporting the army, and for discharging the interest arising upon the debts which have been contracted; that the said committee be, and they are hereby, fully empowered to consult, deliberate and advise with said convention, in all and every subject and matter which may be brought into contemplation, respecting the welfare of the United States or our allies; and in particular to take into consideration the subject-matter of the policy and justice of admitting into union and confederation with the thirteen United States of America, the people calling themselves the state of Vermont.

Provided, that nothing which shall be done in the said convention, in consequence of this appointment, be binding upon this state, until ratified by this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Metcalf Bowler and Nicholas Brown, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed temporary commissioners for the purpose of joining with a commissioner to be sent from the board of treasury, to receive and liquidate the public accounts within this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the persons who are in possession of the Indian meal belonging to this state, which was ground for the militia, be, and they are hereby, requested to exchange the same for Indian corn, at the usual rate of exchange; and that in case the same cannot be ef-

fected, and the meal is in danger of being spoiled, they dispose of it at the best prices, and account for the money.

Whereas, Major William Bradford preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that previous to the reduction of the late regiment commanded by Colonel Sherburne, he was appointed a sub-inspector in the army, in which employment he continued till the close of the last campaign; that he conceives his being in actual service was either unknown or not adverted to, when this Assembly directed their committee, in the liquidation of the said regiment's accounts, to settle them up only to May 1, 1780, without discriminating him from the others, who were put out of service by the reduction of the said regiment; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to direct the said committee to adjust his accounts to the 1st day of August last, it being the time to which the accounts of the other officers and soldiers who were in service were adjusted; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, granted; that the subject-matter thereof, be referred to the committee for settling depreciation; and that they make report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that Nathan Gardner and Edward Hull, both of South Kingstown, be, and they are hereby, permitted to go upon Block Island, to settle their rents in arrear, and to lease out their estates upon the said island; that they have leave to return to South Kingstown, agreeably to a petition by them preferred unto this Assembly; and that the same be done under the inspection of Gideon Hoxsie, Esq.

Whereas, Allen James, of South Kingstown, preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that his wife's mother and brother have both lately died in Huntington, upon Long Island, and there left her a considerable personal estate, which by information is liable to be wasted, unless he applies for it soon; and thereupon prayed this Assembly that he may be permitted to go upon the said island by the

way of Connecticut, or any other way that shall be most convenient; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, granted; and that it be, and hereby is, recommended to Colonel Ledyard, or the commanding officer at New London or Groton, to permit the said Allen James to pass to Long Island, and back again, for the purpose aforesaid, if the same shall not be thought detrimental to the public service.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Benjamin Sheffield be, and he is hereby, permitted to go upon New Shoreham, to negotiate bills left by the enemy for stock taken from his estate on the said island, and to return again, agreeably to the prayer of a petition by him preferred unto this Assembly; and that the same be done under the inspection of Gideon Hoxsie, Esq.

An Act in addition to, and amendment of, an act, passed in October, A. D. 1779, entitled "An act for the better forming, regulating and conducting the military force of this state."

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

It is voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to Benjamin Bourne, Esq., assistant deputy quartermaster general, to pay the account of Mr. Samuel Anthony, exhibited unto this Assembly, amounting to £27, in Continental bills of the new emission, for going an express from Newport, to His Excellency General Washington, in the year 1776.

An Act more effectually to prevent illicit trade, commerce and correspondence, with the enemies of this and the other United States of America.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

An Act paying for beef supplied several towns.

Whereas, by an act of this Assembly, passed at the session in January last, for apportioning to the several towns in this state, and for collecting fresh beef for supplying the army of the United States, it was therein, among other things,—

Resolved, that if any town should deliver any greater quantity of beef, or sum of money, than is assigned by the said act, such town shall be credited for such quantity of beef as they shall deliver over their proportion; or for so much beef as the moneys paid over their proportion shall amount to, to be deducted from the next proportion of beef assigned to such town.

And whereas, some of the said towns, in pursuance thereof, have delivered a greater proportion in beef or money than was assigned them as aforesaid, whereby the purchaser of said beef was enabled, with the credit which he obtained, to purchase and deliver double the quantity of beef for the use aforesaid, than was expected by the said apportionment.

Wherefore, for discharging the balances due and payable on the 5th day of May next, for the beef purchased as aforesaid; and that the several towns may contribute towards the same in an equal proportion, agreeably to the intent and meaning of the said act,—

It is voted and resolved, that the towns hereafter named, pay into the general treasury, on or before the 5th day of May next, the several sums, in silver or gold, herein respectively apportioned to them, to be appropriated as aforesaid, to wit:

*Amount apportioned to the several Towns.*

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Newport .....	61 00 0	South Kingstown .....	68 12 0
Portsmouth .....	10 00 0	Charlestown .....	32 07 0
Jamestown .....	4 00 0	Richmond .....	28 12 0
Middletown .....	14 00 0	Exeter .....	41 14 0
Little Compton .....	36 00 0	Hopkinton .....	34 13 0
Providence .....	60 00 0	Warren .....	15 13 0
Glocester .....	67 10 0	Barrington .....	12 00 0
Cumberland .....	37 00 0	Warwick .....	5 16 0
Cranston .....	50 05 0	East Greenwich .....	20 12 0
Johnston .....	25 15 0	West Greenwich .....	30 08 0
North Providence .....	18 08 0	Coventry .....	41 00 0
Westerly .....	39 05 0		
North Kingstown .....	55 08 0		<hr/> £818 18 0

It is further voted and resolved, that the general treasurer make and deliver to the persons, of whom he receive the sums of money, or any part thereof, as aforesaid, certificates of the amount of the sums so received, mentioning the name of the person and town on whose account the same is received; which said certificates shall discharge so much as is therein expressed, of the next state tax which shall be assessed upon the inhabitants of this state for gold or silver; and the general treasurer is directed to receive the same accordingly.

It is further voted and resolved, that in case any town shall neglect to pay the money assigned them, and within the time aforesaid, such delinquent town shall forfeit and pay into the general treasury, for the use of this state, double the sum in which they

shall be deficient, to be collected by adding the same to the next succeeding tax which shall be assessed upon such town.

It is further voted and resolved, that the general treasurer make a report to the next Assembly, of the moneys which he shall receive in pursuance thereof, that double the deficiency, if any, may be added to the next state tax, which shall be assessed against the delinquent towns in manner as aforesaid.

It is further voted and resolved, that a copy hereof be immediately transmitted to the town clerk of each of the aforementioned towns.

Whereas, the committee who were appointed to appraise and set off to the officers and soldiers in the Continental army, the lands and buildings which were assigned unto them in part of their depreciation, have set off the farm late — Hutchinson's, and the farm late — Apthorp's, lying in Jamestown; the house and lot of land in Newport, late — Lawton's; and the house and lot late — Deblois, in Providence,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the persons to whom the same were respectively set off, have the immediate possession of the same delivered unto them.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the rents for the year ensuing, of the farm improved by — Davis, late — Royal's, be received by the said officers; the said farm being appropriated towards discharging their depreciation.

Whereas, divers goods, wares and merchandize, have been seized, and are now in the possession of the sheriffs of the counties of Kings and Newport, upon suspicion of being imported from Long Island and New Shoreham, which are in the possession or under the control of the enemy; and as the same are liable to condemnation in such manner as this Assembly shall order,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the attorney general of this state, in behalf of the same, file in the clerk's office of the superior court of judicature, &c., for the county of Newport, informations against the said goods, wares and merchandize; that the said clerk give notice thereof in the Newport newspaper, that any claimant may (if he see cause,) appear and file his claim, on or before the second

day of the said superior court, which shall first be held in the said county; that the said court be, and they are hereby, empowered to take cognizance of the said informations and claims, and commit the same to a jury, to inquire if such goods, wares and merchandize have been so imported or not, who shall return a verdict for the condemnation or discharge of the same, as shall appear in evidence; and the said court shall enter judgment thereon accordingly.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if upon the said trials, any evidence shall be produced, to make it probable that such goods, &c., were imported as aforesaid, it shall be sufficient evidence for condemning the same, unless the person or persons claiming property therein, shall, by sufficient evidence, prove that the same were lawfully imported, and not from Long Island, or any other island or place in the possession or under the control of the enemy.

And whereas, a part of the said goods, wares and merchandize, were seized as aforesaid, in consequence of information given of the same being imported as aforesaid, whereby the informants are entitled to, and do expect, to receive the same allowances as are provided in the act passed at the present session, to prevent illicit trade with the enemy,—

It is therefore further enacted, that the one-half of all the goods, wares and merchandize, which were informed against, and which shall appear to have been imported as aforesaid, after all charges allowed by the said court, are paid and satisfied, shall be condemned to the person or persons who gave such information, and the other half-part shall be paid into the general treasury to and for the use of this state; and that such of the said goods, wares and merchandize, which have been so imported, and were not informed against as aforesaid, be condemned, after all charges are paid as aforesaid, to the use of this state.

Whereas, Abraham Whipple, Esq., commander of the naval force of the United States at the siege of Charleston, in South Carolina, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that after the surrender of the said town and ship

ping, he made application to Vice Admiral Arbuthnot, and obtained the paroles of the officers of the squadron under his command, and permission to charter a vessel for the return of a specified number of the same; that he drew a bill for the hire of the said vessel to the amount of £100, sterling, in favor of Gregory Cozzens, the master thereof, and addressed the same for payment to Daniel Tillinghast, Esq., Continental agent, at Providence; who having no money at the arrival of the said cartel, referred the said bill to the honorable the commissioners of the Continental navy board in the eastern department; that the said board acceded to the propriety of the said bill's being paid by the public, but want of money prevented it; and the said Gregory Cozzens sold the bill to Christopher Ellery, Esq., who immediately put it in suit, and hath obtained execution against him for the same, returnable at May court ensuing; and thereupon the said Abraham Whipple prayed that the said execution may be stayed, and an opportunity afforded to the commissioners of the said navy board to collect the money; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, by and with the consent of the parties, that the prayer of the said petition be granted; and that interest be allowed to the said Christopher Ellery on the said execution, until the same shall be satisfied.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of Mr. Elisha Clarke, who was returned as a delinquent in the expedition on Rhode Island, in the year 1778, praying that he may be relieved therefrom, be, and the same is hereby, referred to the next town meeting of the town of North Kingstown; and that the said town meeting consider the same, and cause what to right and justice shall appertain to be done unto the petitioner.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of William Corey, of North Kingstown, preferred unto this Assembly, praying that he may be liberated from his confinement in the said town, be, and the same is hereby, referred to the

next town meeting of the said town; and that the said town meeting do what shall be prudent and right thereon.

It is voted and resolved, that the commissary of purchases within this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to make no more purchases in behalf of this state, until the further orders of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Ward be, and he is hereby, requested to make out the pay abstracts for the non-commissioned officers and soldiers who enlisted into this state's Continental battalions, to serve for six months; that the secretary furnish the said Samuel Ward with the necessary papers, to enable him to complete the said abstracts, if they are in his office; if not, that he make application to the deputy adjutant general of the Continental army, in this department, for the muster-rolls of the said corps; that the respective towns be, and they are hereby, required to furnish the said Samuel Ward with any enlistments, or other documents in their possession, that may enable him to complete the said business; and that each town which has paid or shall pay their said soldiers, shall have the amount of their wages deducted out of their next state tax.

Whereas, from the frequent meetings of the General Assembly, and the multiplicity of business, which is necessarily transacted therein, the records of this state are not fully brought up to this period, and the schedules have not been so timely forwarded to the respective towns as otherwise might have been,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Rowse J. Helme, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to assist the secretary in the said office, that the acts and votes of the Assembly may be fully recorded, and the schedules transmitted to the respective towns in due season; that this Assembly will make such allowances unto the said Rowse J. Helme, as his services may merit; and that the secretary do not charge any thing to the state for transcribing the votes and acts

of this Assembly which shall be done by the said Rowse J. Helme, in order to prepare the same for the press.

It is voted and resolved, that Christopher Ellery and William Taggart, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to receive of the former clerk of the superior court, for the county of Newport, the papers, &c., belonging to his office, and deliver the same to the present clerk of the said court; and that the clerk of the inferior court for the county of Newport, cause the papers belonging to his office, to be brought from Rehoboth, and deposited in the house of, and under the care of, Pardon Gray, Esq.

It is voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to Benjamin Bourne, Esq., assistant deputy quartermaster general, to pay to the town council of Portsmouth, to and for the use of the said town, the sum of £54, in Continental bills, of the new emission; the said sum being in full satisfaction for a house belonging to the said town of Portsmouth, taken for public use, by order of Major General Heath.

Whereas, Mr. Robert Sands, of South Kingstown, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that his father is possessed of a large real estate upon Block Island, which he has committed to his care; and thereupon prayed this Assembly that he may be permitted to go upon the said island, under the inspection of Gideon Hoxsie, Esq., and bring off such articles of produce as have been raised upon the said estate; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Robert Sands be, and he is hereby, permitted to go upon the said island, under the direction of Gideon Hoxsie, Esq.; and that he do not return without the order of this Assembly.

Whereas, the state house in the county of Newport was used as a barrack by the enemy, during the time they were in possession of the island of Rhode Island, whereby the same was so much injured, that this Assembly, nor the

courts of law cannot be accommodated therein, unless large sums of money be expended in the repair thereof; and whereas, the said courts have heretofore met in the synagogue, in the town of Newport, which with a small expense may be rendered convenient for this Assembly and the said courts,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Newport, under the direction of the present deputies of the said town, cause such a number of benches to be placed in the said synagogue, as will accommodate the members of this Assembly; and that he purchase two tables and twelve chairs for the use aforesaid.

Whereas, a certain lot of land, situate in Newport, containing about four acres, was confiscated to the use of this state, as the property of Isaac Lawton; and whereas, since the confiscation thereof, it hath been represented to this Assembly, that Mrs. —— Butts, widow of John Butts, Esq., deceased, hath a right to an equity of redemption in the same; it having been mortgaged to the said Isaac Lawton by her said husband,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Mrs. Butts be, and she is hereby, empowered to prosecute any action or bill for the recovery of any right she may have in the same, the said judgment of confiscation notwithstanding.

Provided, that this state continue in the possession of the said land, until such action or bill so to be commenced, be finally determined.

Whereas, there are a number of inhabitants of the town of Newport, well effected to the United States of America, who have not had an opportunity to comply with the law of this state, prescribing a test to be subscribed by the inhabitants thereof, on account of the enemy's having possession of the said town, whereby they are deprived of the privilege of voting,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said inhabit-

ants be, and they are hereby, permitted to subscribe the said test, with the approbation of Christopher Ellery, Esq., and the deputies of the said town.

Whereas, there are a number of inhabitants of the towns of Portsmouth and Middletown, well affected to the United States of America, who have not had an opportunity to comply with the law of this state, prescribing a test to be subscribed by the inhabitants thereof, on account of the enemy's having possession of the said towns, whereby they are deprived of the privilege of voting,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said inhabitants of the said towns be, and they are hereby, permitted to subscribe the said test, with the approbation of the presidents of the town council, and deputies of the said towns, respectively.

It is voted and resolved, that Rowse J. Helme, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to sell at public vendue, a long-boat, belonging to this state, lying in South Kingstown, on Boston Neck; and that he pay the money, arising from the sale thereof, into the general treasury.

Whereas, Joshua Randall, formerly of the state of Connecticut, who has resided for some time on the farm of Colonel John Gardner, hath been detected in harboring and concealing persons from Long Island, with their goods,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kings be, and he is hereby, directed to convey the said Joshua Randall out of this state within twenty days after he shall be discharged from his recognizance by the superior court; and that if he shall return, the sheriffs of either of the counties in this state be, and they are hereby, directed to apprehend him, and commit him to close confinement in either of the jails in this state, there to remain until the further orders of this Assembly.

Voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Thomas Rice, for necessaries furnished to Marcy Martindale, one of the poor of Newport .....	1 08 06
Thomas Allen, for three muskets and accoutrements taken from him for the use of the militia in General Sullivan's expedition on Rhode Island .....	12 19 00
Beriah Waite, for carrying several acts of the Assembly to each town clerk in the county of Kings .....	3 04 09
Edward Perry, for making three copies of an act of the General Arsemby for calling out part of the militia.....	1 12 03
George Irish, for his services, expenses, &c., in procuring a ferry-boat for Mrs. Mary Franklin .....	9 07 02
John Reynolds, agent-clothier for the state, authorized to draw out of the general treasury, \$4,000.	
William Mumford, for his services in assisting the committee in settling the depreciation accounts of the Continental troops raised by the state	9 18 00
John Northup, for his services as one of the committee for settling the depreciation accounts of the Continental troops raised by the state.....	7 12 01
Daniel Branch, for attending upon Lieutenant Colonel Olney, while mustering recruits for the Continental battalion of the state.....	14 02 00
William Mumford, for four days' attendance on the General Assembly, as deputy secretary.....	5 00 00
William Tanner, a soldier, on account of depreciation.....	9 00 00
Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Olney, for paper and casks, by him procured for the use of the state.....	4 12 00
Lieutenant Oliver Jenckes, for the hire of a horse to accompany General Washington to Voluntown .....	1 13 09
Sergeant Seth Fisher, for his services and expenses in apprehending Cuff Slade and William Howard, deserters .....	6 14 06
Captain Thomas Cole, on account of depreciation .....	36 00 00
Christopher Clarke, for three blankets by him furnished for the use of the state's troops .....	6 00 00
John Baggs, Jr., a wounded soldier .....	27 00 00
Beriah Brown, sheriff of the county of Kings, for his attendance on the General Assembly, and on the courts, &c. ....	118 03 08
Preserved Pearce, sheriff of the county of Kent, for carrying the acts and orders of the General Assemby, &c. ....	43 05 09
Captain Timothy Lock, for his company, who did duty in July and August, 1780 .....	8 10 04
Samuel Ward, for examining and completing the militia abstracts .....	11 14 08
Captain William Tew, for his expenses from headquarters to this state and back to West Point, \$23 75.	
James Shearman, for four bushels of corn furnished for General Stanton's brigade .....	2 02 08
Moses Cooper, for fifty bushels of corn, by him furnished for the use of the army.....	22 10 00
Andrew Boyd, for his attendance on the justices of the superior court, as clerk .....	19 06 03
James Pierce, for one day's work on the state house in South Kingstown..	10 08

	£ s. d.
Robert Newell, for coloring a piece of silk gauze for George Howell .....	1 08 01
Edward Perry, clerk of the superior court for the county of Kings, for fees, &c.....	7 00 00
Walter Channing, for his fees, as clerk of the superior court for the county of Newport .....	27 02 00
Samuel Helme, for copying an act of the General Assembly, for calling out the militia .....	10 09
Sergeant Esek Dexter, for his expenses in pursuing a deserter.....	18 03
Nicholas Easton, for twenty-three guns and accoutrements furnished for the town of Middletown, in the year 1776.....	17 09 02
John Child and Thomas Allen, for their services in estimating the damage sustained by Nathaniel Fales, Jr. .....	1 16 00
Archibald Crary, for examining and completing the abstracts of the militia in the alarm in July and August last, &c.....	17 00 00
Hopkins Cooke, for the same service .....	15 03 00
John Carter, for printing .....	35 08 00
Henry Barber, " " .....	36 02 00
Bennett Wheeler, " .....	15 10 00
Benjamin Bourne, assistant deputy quartermaster general, authorized to draw out of the general treasury, to supply the quartermaster's de- partment .....	600 09 00
Beriah Brown, sheriff of the county of Kings, for fees, &c.....	6 15 00
" " " " " " for warning members of the General Assembly, &c. .....	7 04 00
William Taggart, Jr., for horse hire, expenses, &c., in searching for illicit goods .....	7 11 02
Caleb Harris, for services done the state.....	15 00 00
Matthew Manchester, for his services, expenses, &c., as one of the com- mittee for surveying and appraising the state's farms set off to the offi- cers and soldiers of this state.....	6 00 00
William Richmond, for his expenses, &c., for the same service .....	6 00 00
William Taggart, " " " " " " .....	6 00 00
Hezekiah Wilcox, for the freight of a quantity of salt for the state.....	14 13 01
Solomon Southwick, deputy commissary general of issues, authorized to draw out of the general treasury .....	100 00 00
Benjamin Bosworth, for his expenses, &c., in estimating the damages done by the troops upon Rhode Island and Jamestown, in the year 1776 ...	16 00 02
George Cornell, deputy sheriff, for serving two warrants upon Beriah Al- len and Job Durfee .....	2 09 00
John Northup, Peter Phillips and Robert Brown, for settling a dispute be- tween the state and John Howland.....	1 16 00
William Richmond, for his services in surveying and selling the state's farms .....	10 06 05
Robert Congdon, a soldier in the Continental army, in the pay of this state, for depreciation .....	6 00 00
Elisha Mowry, Jr., for his services in surveying and viewing the farms set off to the officers and soldiers of this state's Continental battalions....	7 10 00
John Jenckes, &c., for the same service .....	7 10 00
William Bradford, for his services in leasing the state's farms, paying the rents, &c. ....	44 16 00
Beriah Waite, deputy sheriff, for apprehending William Rhodes, &c. ....	8 02 00

	£ s. d.
Robert Rodman, Jr., for eight bushels of corn, furnished for the use of Col. Thomas Potter's regiment .....	4 06 04
Elijah Bacon, for his expenses, &c., in going to Boston.....	4 12 07
Clark Albro, keeper of the jail in the county of Kings, for the maintenance of Elisha Sisson, a poor prisoner.....	5 05 02
Shubael Burr, for entertaining General Washington and suite .....	12 12 00
Peter Turner, surgeon, on account of depreciation.....	54 00 00
John Parish, surgeon's mate, " "	27 00 00
Ebenezer Tefft, for his attendance on the present General Assembly, as a waiter, &c.....	9 03 07
Freeman Perry, for his attendance on the General Assembly, as an assist- ant secretary, &c.....	9 18 00
Rowse J. Helme, for paper furnished, and for his attendance on the Gen- eral Assembly, as clerk.....	14 07 06
Stephen Mumford, authorized to draw out of the general treasury, to dis- charge a note, &c.....	538 10 06
Edward Perry, for assisting the justices of the superior court, &c.....	6 08 00
Daniel Tefft, 3d, for one cord of wood by him delivered for the use of the General Assembly, &c.....	2 02 05
David Douglass, for his attendance on the present General Assembly, as a waiter, &c.....	9 18 06
Clark Albro, a wounded soldier; in compensation for a wound he received Jonathan Gladding, for his services as conductor in the laboratory at Providence .....	15 00 00
	2 06 02

God save the United States of America.

*Gov. Trumbull, of Connecticut, to the Governor of Rhode  
Island. relative to the admission of Vermont into the  
Union.*

Hartford, March 9th, 1781.

Sir:—In conformity to the recommendation of the late convention holden in this place, from the New England states and the state of New York, and a concurrent compliance on the part of said states, agreeing to a second convention to be soon holden, I have to inform Your Excellency that I have fixed on Thursday, the 12th day of April next for the commissioners from the several states to meet in convention at Providence, in the state of Rhode Island.

Enclosed is a resolution lately passed in General Assembly of this state, enlarging the instructions to their commissioners, which I am desired to communicate for the purpose therein mentioned.

An act is also passed in the present sessions of our Assembly, vesting in Congress a power to levy and collect duties and imposts on goods imported, and on prize goods, in consequence of resolutions of Congress of the 3d and 7th of February last; copy of which is transmitted to Congress.

With esteem and regard, I am, sir,

Your most obedient and very humble servant,

JON'TH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Le Compte de Rochambeau to the Governor of Rhode Island.*

Newport, April 6th, 1781.

Sir:—It having been necessary on different occasions to make use of the boats of this country, and having experienced delays which may be very prejudicial to the public service; or having been grossly imposed on as to the payment in hard money, which is equally pernicious, I beg of Your Excellency to send me an order which I may make use of on all occasions, that I may have the boats at the same price and conditions as the Continental army. As this corps is a part of it, it is but just that it should be treated in the same manner; it is likewise for the service of the common cause.

I beg Your Excellency to have regard to my demand, and to be persuaded of the respect with which I am,

Your Excellency's most humble and most obedient servant,  
LE COMPTE DEROCHAMBEAU.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

P. S. I beg of Your Excellency that the order may likewise be for the wagons of the country, in case they should be needed for the service.

*The Governor of Rhode Island to General le Compte de Rochambeau.*

Warwick, 7th April, 1781.

Sir:—Your favor of yesterday is now before me, and am sorry to find that you meet with difficulty in regard to the prices of boats and wagons, when necessarily employed by you.

But as I am not authorized to give an order in the manner you have requested, shall lay your letter before the General Assembly in the early part of their next sessions, which is to be held in Newport within about four weeks; and in the meanwhile recommend to you Christopher Ellery, Esq., Mr. William Channing, Col. Robert Elliot and Mr. William Taggart, who are members of the General Assembly, and inhabitants of Newport. They, or either of them, are capable of letting you know what are the customary prices for those articles when employed in the manner you have mentioned; and I doubt not will cheerfully afford you every assistance in their power. And you may rest assured that nothing shall be wanting on my part consistent with the power vested in me, to prevent impositions of this kind from taking place.

With great regard,

I am your most obedient and most humble servant,  
WM. GREENE.

To His Excellency Gen'l Rochambeau.

*Gen. Nathaniel Greene to the Governor of Rhode Island.*Camp before Camden, |  
April 22d, 1781. |

Sir:—In my last I informed your Excellency of Lord Cornwallis's precipitate retreat from Deep River, of the situation of our army for want of provisions, and of the Virginia militia time of service having expired; which reduced our numbers greatly inferior to the enemy's.

Finding that I had not a force to pursue them further, and that our army could not be subsisted either on the route the enemy had marched, or in the lower country, I thought it most advisable to push my operations into South Carolina to recover the expiring hopes of the people; to divide with the enemy the supplies of the country, of which they had an entire command; to break up their little posts of communication, and if possible oblige Lord Cornwallis to return to the state for their protection.

This last was the great object of my movement; and had we a force to prosecute the plan, I persuade myself it would take effect; but for want of which, the matter remains doubtful. Upwards of five months have I been in this department, with nothing but the remains of a routed army, except the addition of Col. Lee's legion, and a couple of small detachments from Virginia, amounting to little more than a regiment; and those without discipline, or even officers to command them. In this situation, with a temporary aid of militia, we have been struggling with a very unequal force, under every possible disadvantage, and surrounded with every kind of distress.

We have run every hazard, and been exposed to every danger, not only of being beaten, but totally ruined. I have been anxiously waiting for succor; but the prospect appears remote, except the temporary aid of militia, which is too precarious and uncertain to commence any serious offensive operations upon.

The more I inquire into the natural strength of North and South Carolina, either to form or support an army, the more I am persuaded they have been greatly overrated. More of the inhabitants appear in the king's interest than in ours; and the country is so extensive, and thinly inhabited, that it is not easy either to draw any considerable force together, or to subsist them when collected. The militia in our interest, can do little more than keep tories in subjection, and in many places not that.

These states were in a better condition to make exertions last campaign, than this; the well-affected last year, spent their time and their substance in fruitless exertions; and finding themselves unequal to the conflict, and their families being exposed and in distress, hundreds and hundreds of the best whigs have left their country. Last year it was full of resources; this, it is almost totally exhausted; and the little produce that remains, is so remote, means of transportation so difficult to command, that it is next to an impossibility to collect it.

The enemy have got a firmer footing in the southern states than is generally expected. Camden ninety-six, and Augusta cover all the fertile parts of South Carolina and Georgia; and they are laying waste the country above them, which will effectually secure those posts, as no army can be subsisted in the neighborhood to operate against them. Below, they have a great many intermediate posts of communication, for the purpose of awing the country and commanding its supplies. Nor can I see how we are to reduce those capital posts but with a superior army in the field.

I wish Congress not to be deceived respecting the situation of things in the southern department; and therefore I hope they will excuse the freedom I take. If more effectual support cannot be given than has been, or as I can see any prospect of, I am very apprehensive that the enemy will hold their ground, not only in the sea-ports, but the interior country. The conflict may continue for some time longer, and Generals Sump-

ter and Marion deserve great credit for their exertions and perseverance, but their endeavors serve rather to keep the contest alive, than lay a foundation for recovering the states.

We began our march from Deep River on the 7th, and arrived in the neighborhood of Camden on the 19th; all the country through which we passed is disaffected; and the same guards and scouts were necessary to collect provisions and forage, as if in an open and avowed enemy's country.

On our arrival at Camden, we took post at Logtown, about half a mile in front of their works; which, upon reconnoitering, were found to be much stronger than had been represented, and the garrison much larger. The town is upon a plain, covered on two sides by the river Wateree and Pine Tree Creek. The two other sides, by a chain of strong redoubts; all nearly of the same size, and independent of each other. Our force was too small, either to invest the town, or storm the works, which obliged us to take a position at a little distance from it.

Before we began our march from Deep River, I detached Lieut. Col. Lee with his legion, and part of the second Maryland regiment, to join Gen. Marion, to invest the enemy's post of communication upon the Santee; and one of their posts is now invested, called Fort Watson, and must fall, if not relieved by a detachment of Lord Cornwallis's army.

I have been greatly disappointed in the force I expected to operate with me. Fifteen hundred Virginia militia were called for immediately after the battle of Guilford, having this present movement in contemplation at the time; and the state gave an order for a greater number than was required. But the busy season of the year, and the great distance they have to march, prevents their coming to our assistance in time, if not in force. General Sumpter also engaged to have one thousand men in the field by the 10th, to operate with us; but the difficulty of collecting the militia, from the disagreeable situation of their families, has prevented their embodying yet in any considerable force.

These disappointments lay us under many disadvantages, to say nothing worse. The country is extremely difficult to operate in, being much cut to pieces by deep creeks, and impassable morasses; and many parts are covered with such heavy timber, and thick underbrush, as exposes an army and particularly detachments, to frequent surprises.

The service has been so severe, that it will be absolutely necessary to give the army some relaxation soon, and therefore I lament the delay which is occasioned at this time for want of sufficient force to invest all the enemy's posts of communication. Our numbers are so reduced by the different actions and skirmishes which have happened, and by the fatigues and hardships of the service, that we have but the shadow of an army remaining; and this we are obliged to divide, to push our operations to any effect; though it is attended with danger, and may prove our ruin.

I am extremely mortified at the disappointment which happened in Virginia, in the plan of co-operation against Portsmouth, between our good ally and the Marquis de La Fayette. Success there, would have given us great relief here; and I am persuaded that nothing can recover this country out of the hands of the enemy, but a similar plan in the southern states. At present, the enemy have as full possession of Georgia, and almost the whole of South Carolina, as they can wish. The last accounts I had from Lord Cornwallis, he lay at Wilmington; and his army, it was said, was getting very sickly.

I have the honor to be, &c.,  
NATH. GREENE.

To Governor Greene.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Newport, on the first Wednesday in May, 1781.*

The following named officers, declared elected, were duly engaged:

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

ASSISTANTS.

John I. Clarke, Esq.,  
Thomas Wells, Esq.,  
John Sayles, Esq.,  
Jonathan Arnold, Esq.,  
Richard Fry, Esq.,

John Northup, Esq.,  
Enoch Hazard, Esq.,  
Christopher Ellery, Esq.,  
John Cook, Esq.,  
Daniel Owen, Esq.

DEPUTIES.

*Newport.*

Daniel Holloway, Esq.,  
William Channing, Esq.,  
William Taggart, Esq.,  
Robert Elliott, Esq.,  
Job Easton, Esq.,  
Mr. Timothy Waterhouse.

*Providence.*

Welcome Arnold, Esq.,  
Charles Keen, Esq.,  
Mr. Joseph Brown,  
Theodore Foster, Esq.

*Portsmouth.*

Mr. David Gifford,  
Mr. William Anthony, Jr.,  
Mr. Robert Lawton.

*Warwick.*

Thomas Holden, Esq.,  
Mr. Thomas Remington,  
Mr. Moses Lippitt,  
Christopher Greene, Esq.

*Westerly.*

David Maxson, Esq.,  
Edward Bliven, Esq.

*North Kingstown.*

Ezekiel Gardner, Jr., Esq.,  
Sylvester Gardner, Esq.

*South Kingstown.*

Mr. Robert Potter,  
Rowse J. Helme, Esq.

## DEPUTIES.

<i>East Greenwich.</i>	<i>Bristol.</i>
Archibald Crary, Esq.,	William Bradford, Esq.,
Benjamin Tillinghast, Esq.	Nathaniel Fales, Esq.
<i>Jamestown.</i>	<i>Tiverton.</i>
Mr. John Weeden,	Mr. Joseph Shearman.
Mr. John Howland.	<i>Little Compton.</i>
<i>Smithfield.</i>	William Richmond, Esq.,
Andrew Waterman, Esq.,	Isaac Baley, Esq.
Mr. Henry Jenckes.	<i>Warren.</i>
<i>Scituate.</i>	Cromel Child, Esq.,
William Rhodes, Esq.,	William T. Miller, Esq.
Rufus Hopkins, Esq.	<i>Cumberland.</i>
<i>Glocester.</i>	Mr. Levi Ballou,
Mr. Simon Smith.	Jotham Carpenter, Esq.
<i>Charlestown.</i>	<i>Richmond.</i>
Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq.,	Robert Stanton, Esq.,
Jonathan J. Hazard, Esq.	Mr. Christopher Clarke.
<i>West Greenwich.</i>	<i>Cranston..</i>
Thomas Gorton, Esq.,	Peter Burlingame, Esq.
Jonathan Comstock, Esq.	<i>Hopkinton.</i>
<i>Coventry.</i>	George Thurston, Esq.,
Israel Bowen, Esq.,	Mr. Samuel Babcock.
Stephen Potter, Esq.	<i>Johnston.</i>
<i>Exeter.</i>	John Smith, Esq.,
John Chapman, Esq.,	Andrew Harris, Esq.
Thomas Wilcox, Esq.	<i>North Providence.</i>
<i>Middletown.</i>	Esek Hopkins, Esq.,
Mr. Nicholas Easton,	John Jenckes, Esq.
George Irish, Esq.	<i>Barrington.</i>
	Samuel Allin, Esq.

The Hon. William Bradford, Esq., speaker; Rowse J. Helme, Esq., clerk.

Henry Ward, Esq., secretary.

William Channing, Esq., attorney general.

Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer.

DELEGATES TO REPRESENT THE STATE IN CONGRESS.

The Hon. William Ellery, Esq.,

The Hon. Ezekiel Cornell, Esq.

The Hon. Daniel Mowry, Esq.,

The Hon. James Mitchell Varnum, Esq.

Gideon Mumford, Esq., fifth assistant, in the room of Richard Fry, Esq., who declined.

JUSTICES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

Paul Mumford, Esq., chief; Peter Phillips, Esq., second; Thos. Tillinghast, Esq., third; Ambrose Page, Esq., fourth; Pardon Gray, Esq., fifth.

JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR NEWPORT COUNTY.

Benjamin Underwood, Esq., chief; William Richmond, Esq., second; William Taggart, third; Christopher Ellery, Esq., fourth; Timothy Waterhouse, Esq., fifth.

JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR PROVIDENCE COUNTY.

Richard Steere, Esq., chief; Jeremiah Whipple, Esq., second; David Howell, Esq., third; Caleb Aldrich, Esq., fourth; Caleb Fisk, Esq., fifth.

JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR KINGS COUNTY.

Samuel Babcock, Esq., chief; John Northup, Esq., second; Edward Perry, Esq., third; Abel Tanner, Esq., fourth; Robert Potter, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR BRISTOL COUNTY.

Nathaniel Fales, Esq., chief; John Child, Esq., second; Joseph Reynolds, Esq., third; Josiah Humphrey, Esq., fourth; Samuel Allen, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR KENT COUNTY.

Philip Greene, Esq., chief; James Arnold, Esq., second; Benjamin Tillinghast, Esq., third; Aaron Bowen, Esq., fourth; Rufus Spencer, Esq., fifth.

## JUDGE OF THE COURT OF ADMIRALTY.

John Foster, Esq., judge of the court of admiralty, erected for the trial of prize causes, within and throughout the state.

## SHERIFFS OF THE SEVERAL COUNTIES.

<i>Newport county.</i>	<i>Bristol county.</i>
William Davis, Esq.	Richard Smith, Esq.
<i>Providence county.</i>	<i>Kent county.</i>
John Beverly, Esq.	Richard Fry, Esq.
<i>Kings county,</i> Beriah Brown, Esq.	

## INTENDANTS OF TRADE FOR PROVIDENCE AND NEWPORT.

Henry Ward, Esq., intendant of trade for the port of Providence.

Robert Elliott, Esq., intendant of trade for the port of Newport.

## FIELD OFFICERS FOR THE STATE, IN THE SEVERAL COUNTIES.

Christopher Lippitt, Esq., brigadier general of the militia, in the county of Providence,

Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq., brigadier general, of the militia in the county of Kings.

Nathan Miller, Esq., brigadier general, of the militia in the counties of Newport and Bristol.

Thomas Holden, Esq., briagdier general, of the militia in the county of Kent.

Christopher Olney, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the first regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Jesse Maxson, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the first regiment of militia in the county of Kings.

Peter Church, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the regiment of militia in the county of Bristol.

Lemuel Bailey, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the second regiment of militia in the county of Newport.

George Peck, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the second regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Charles Dyer, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the the second regiment of militia in the county of Kings.

Archibald Kasson, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the second regiment of militia in the county of Kent.

Stephen Kimball, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the third regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Thomas Potter, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the third regiment of militia in the county of Kings.

Asa Kimball, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the fourth regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

James Burrill, Esq., major, of the first regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

John Davis, Esq., major, of the second regiment of militia, in the county of Newport.

Daniel Mowry, 4th, Esq., major, of the second regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Joseph Knight, Esq., major, of the third regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Stephen Winsor, Esq., major, of the fourth regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Joseph Pendleton, Esq., major, of the first regiment of militia in the county of Kings.

Jonathan Bates, Esq., major, of the second regiment of militia in the county of Kings.

Richard Bailey, Esq., major, of the third regiment of militia in the county of Kings.

Peleg Heath, Esq., major, of the regiment of militia in the county of Bristol.

Thomas Gorton, Esq., major, of the second regiment of militia in the county of Kent.

Amos Atwell, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Gideon Hoxsie, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Kings.

Reuben Ballou, Esq., major, of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Sylvester Gardner, Esq., major, of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Kings.

Robert Carr, Esq., major, of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Bristol.

Isaac Johnson, Esq., major of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Kent.

Archibald Crary, Esq., adjutant general of militia in this state.

James Lovett, Esq., quartermaster general, of the militia in this state.

Charles Holden, Esq., commissary general, of the militia in this state.

Jonathan Arnold, Esq., director and purveyor general, of the hospitals for the militia in this state.

Isaac Senter, Esq., surgeon and physician general of the militia in this state.

Upon the petition of divers inhabitants of the towns of Westerly, Charlestown and Hopkinton, preferred unto this Assembly, praying that the incorporated company of artillery belonging to the said towns may be dissolved,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be referred to the next session of this Assembly; and that in the mean time the officers of the said company be served with a copy of the said petition, and cited to appear at the next session of this Assembly, to answer unto the same, if they shall see fit.

It is voted and resolved, that the class in Coventry, whereof Caleb Vaughan, Jr., is head, be allowed until the 25th day of this instant May, to furnish an able-bodied, effective recruit, to serve in the Continental army, for three years, or during the war; and, in case such recruit be not furnished at the expiration of the said time, that the person detached in said class be sent forward to the army, agreeably to law.

Upon the petition of Joseph Wanton, Esq., of Providence (son of Gideon Wanton, Esq., late of Newport, deceased), which was referred from the last to the present session of this Assembly,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be referred to the next session of this Assembly; that the said Joseph Wanton then produce a copy of the judgment referred to in the said petition; and that Col. John Topham, who is said to be in possession of the estate mentioned therein, be cited to appear and show cause, if any he hath, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. William Ennis be, and he is hereby, appointed an ensign in Colonel Christopher Greene's Continental battalion, in the pay of this state, to take rank from the 1st of April last.

Whereas, Amos Reynolds, Robert Hopkins, (son of Alexander), Alexander Hopkins, Thomas Reynolds (son of Thomas,) and John Briggs, all of West Greenwich, in the county of Kent, have been apprehended and confined in the jails in this state, upon suspicion of being concerned in setting fire to the barn of Othniel Gorton, Esq., and to several stacks of hay, belonging to other persons, subjects of this

state, whereby the same were consumed, and have since their confinement broken out of jail and absconded,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kent immediately take into his possession the real and personal estates of the persons aforesigned, to and for the use of this state; that he also take possession, as aforesaid, of the real and personal estate of John Case, of West Greenwich, aforesaid; who having been charged as aforesaid, thereupon absconded; and that the said sheriff make report of his proceedings to the next session of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee for the county of Providence, for settling the disputes respecting the soldiers who have enlisted into the Continental battalions for three years, or during the war, meet at the state house, in Providence, on Friday, the 11th of May instant, and there settle and final judgment make between the town of Warren, and a class in the town of Coventry, whereof David Brayton is head, relative to Edward Jacklyn, a soldier; also between a class in the town of Warwick, whereof Thos. Holden, Esq., is head, and a class in the town of Coventry, whereof Jeremiah Fenner is head, relative to Benjamin Caswell, a soldier in the said army; and also between the town of Gloucester and a class in the town of Scituate, whereof Ebenezer Handy is head, relative to David Hix, a soldier; that the said committee then hear and determine all matters and things in dispute between the parties aforesaid, and finally determine to what town or class the said soldiers do respectively belong; that the said committee settle and determine what costs ought to be paid, and who shall pay the same; that their report and determination shall be final and binding upon all parties; and that, if any of the complaining parties refuse or neglect to attend, the said committee proceed *ex parte*.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins and John Jenckes, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a com-

mitsee to ascertain the balances of the sum of £6,000, silver money, which hath been appropriated to the paying and discharging the one-quarter part of the depreciation money due the officers and soldiers of this state, in the Continental army; that so much thereof as shall be due to the officers and soldiers belonging to the regiment now under the command of Colonel Christopher Greene (to be ascertained by the said committee), be paid out of the general treasury, to Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Olney, to be by him paid to the respective officers and soldiers in the said regiment, agreeably to the report of the balances due unto them, after deducting from those officers and soldiers the moneys which have been already paid them on the said account; that so much of the said balances due to the officers who were not included in the late arrangement (to be ascertained as aforesaid), be paid them respectively, out of the general treasury; that the said committee make a report to the general treasurer of the balances due as aforesaid; and that the general treasurer pay the same accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that if any town in this state shall not, within ten days after the rising of this Assembly pay into the general treasury the whole of the silver money tax which was assessed upon them by this Assembly, the general treasurer forthwith, upon the expiration of the time aforesaid, issue his warrants of distress against the town treasurers of each deficient town, returnable in five days, for all the said money that shall be due from each town; and that the deputies from the respective towns, immediately upon their return, inform the collectors of taxes of their respective towns of this resolution.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins and John Jenckes, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to receive of the general treasurer of this state, the Continental money of the old emissions now in, or which shall be paid into, the general treasury, in consequence of the taxes already assessed; and that they pay the same to

the commissioner<sup>r</sup> of the loan office in this state, and receive of him the bills of the new emission in lieu thereof, agreeably to a resolve of Congress.

Whereas, the committee appointed to set off lands to the officers and soldiers of the regiments commanded by the Cols. Christopher Greene, Henry Sherburne and Israel Angell, presented unto this Assembly, a general state of the balances due to the said officers and soldiers, and several reports respecting the same, as follows, to wit :

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly to set off lands to certain Officers and Soldiers, on account of Wages.*

	£ s. d.
Balance due to Col. Christopher Greene's regiment .....	5,212 02 6
"    "    Henry Sherburne's     "      .....	1,304 04 9
"    "    Israel Angell's     "      .....	19,158 05 0
	<hr/>
	£25,674 12 3
	£ s. d.
Deduct so much to be paid in specie .....	6,000 00 00
" for so much allowed Capt. William Littlefield, the payment of which is stopped by the General Assembly	140 10 01
Deduct for the house and lot of land in Providence, late Gilbert Deblois's, set off to Capt. William Allen and Lieut. Oliver Jenckes .....	622 10 00
Deduct also £383 10s. 4d., to make up one-quarter part of the whole balance due; which, if the state do not choose to pay in money, will still remain to be set off in lands, agreeably to the act of the General Assembly...	383 10 04
	<hr/>
	£7,146 11 3
The balance to be set off in lands .....	£18,528 01 0

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly to value the House and Lot of Land, belonging to Gilbert Deblois, of Providence.*

The subscribers being appointed by the honorable the General Assembly, together with William Richmond and William Taggart, Esqs., to value the house and lot of land in Providence, formerly the property of Gilbert Deblois, having this day, met and viewed the premises, do report :

That the said house and lot of land is worth two thousand and seventy-five silver dollars; and do set the same off to Captain William Allen and Lieutenant Oliver Jenckes,

agreeably to an act of this Assembly, on account of the depreciation of wages. As witness our hands, in Providence, this 19th day of March, A. D. 1781.

JOHN JENCKES,

MATTHEW MANCHESTER,

ELISHA MOWRY, JR.,

Committee:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
to set off a House in Newport to Maj. Daniel Box.*

The subscribers, being appointed by the honorable the General Assembly, to set off to Major Daniel Box, a house or houses, in the town of Newport, to the amount of £396 14s. 6d., silver money, being the balance of his depreciation account, as settled by the committee appointed for that purpose, having met this day, and viewed the house, formerly the property of Isaac Lawton, near the state house, in said Newport, do report:

That the value of the said house, with the lot it stands on, being fifty-nine feet in front, or thereabouts, and extending eastward forty-five feet, on parallel lines with the front, with liberty to draw water from the well, is worth £396 14s. 6d., silver money; and do set the same off to the said Daniel Box, in full for the depreciation of his wages, agreeably to an act of this Assembly.

WILLIAM RICHMOND,

JOHN JENCKES,

ELISHA MOWRY, JR.,

WILLIAM TAGGART,

MATTHEW MANCHESTER,

Committee.

Newport, March 21st, A. D. 1781.

The same committee thus estimated the three following farms, belonging to this state:

The Mount Hope farm, formerly the property of Isaiae Royal, containing three hundred and eighty-five acres; estimated to be worth £4,512, silver money, set off to the officers and soldiers of Colonel Christopher Greene and Colonel Henry Sherburne's regiments, on account.

The farm on Jamestown, formerly the property of Charles Ward Apthorp, containing three hundred and eighty-four acres, valued at £5,196, silver money; set off to the officers and soldiers of Col. Israel Angell's regiment.

And the farm of Thomas Hutchinson, containing six hundred and forty acres, valued at £7,306 19s., silver money; set off to the officers and soldiers of Colonel Israel Angell's regiment, on account.

Other small lots of land belonging to the state, were set off to the same regiments to balance their several accounts.

Voted and resolved, that Messrs. John Brown, Welcome Arnold and Paul Allen, be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to charter a suitable, fast sailing vessel, in order to be fitted as a cruiser to clear the coast of the piratical boats that infest the same; that the burthen of the said vessel be between thirty and fifty tons, or thereabouts; to mount four or more carriage guns, of three or four-

pounders; six or eight swivels, with small arms and cutlasses; and all other implements, ammunition, provisions and stores, that shall be necessary for her as a cruizer, as aforesaid; that the said committee, or either of them, make application unto the commissary of military stores for as many cannon as they shall think proper for the said vessel, and of such a size as will be suitable; and also for small arms, cutlasses, and other military stores, which may be wanted for the purpose aforesaid; who is hereby requested and directed to deliver the same for the purpose, aforesaid; that the said committee make application to the commissaries of this state for such quantities of beef, pork, tallow and leather as will be necessary for equipping the said vessel; who are hereby directed to deliver the same; that the said committee draw a sum not exceeding \$5,000, in Continental money, of the new emission, out of the general treasury, for the purpose aforesaid, and account for the same; and that they forthwith proceed upon the business aforesaid, and appoint the officers for the said vessel, man her, and get her to sea, as soon as may be.

Whereas, information is made to this Assembly, that Moses Blanchard, procured Michael Power to enlist as a soldier for the class of which he was head; and Andrew Craige procured a man to enlist for the class of which Caleb Vaughan was head, and have received the bounties allowed by the state for enlisting the said men, knowing at the same time that the persons procured by them to enlist were incapable of being enlisted, whereby the state is likely to be defrauded of the said bounties, and the said classes greatly injured,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kent be, and hereby is, directed to serve the said Moses Blanchard and Andrew Craige with a citation to appear before this Assembly at the next session, to answer to the said information, and to be proceeded with as to justice shall appertain.

An Act in addition to an act for completing this state's quota of Continental troops.

Whereas, the Legislature of this state, from a conviction of the absolute necessity of having their quota of troops in the field, apportioned the men to the several towns, and ordered the inhabitants respectively to be classed; and in case the respective classes should not procure an able-bodied recruit by a limited time, that a person should be detached from each delinquent class; and it having been the expectation and wish of the General Assembly, that the several classes should exert themselves for procuring the men to enlist voluntarily, by making an adequate allowance, it being most conducive to the general good that all persons employed in the public service should be freely and voluntarily engaged, without compulsion; and as the purposes of the acts for classing the inhabitants, have been in general answered, much the greatest part of the men having voluntarily enlisted; but as some persons have been detached, whose circumstances and situation in life will not permit their being sent forward to the army to do duty, without great difficulties and mischievous consequences ensuing to the public therefrom,—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that the committees of the several towns heretofore appointed by the General Assembly for classing the inhabitants be, and they are hereby, required, in cases where persons have been detached from any class, to assess the sum of three hundred Spanish milled dollars, upon such class from which any person hath been detached as aforesaid; in the same manner as is directed by the act ordering the inhabitants to be classed; that the monys thus assessed by the said committees, be collected by the collector of taxes for the town to which each class shall belong respectively, to whom the said committee shall issue their warrant for collecting the same; that the same be assessed within ten days from the rising of this Assembly, and paid into the general treasury on or before the 5th day of June next, to be appropriated for hiring a man for the class upon whom the same shall be assessed as aforesaid; that William Taggart, Esq., Colonel Archibald Crary, Colonel Thomas Potter, Mr. Joseph Hoyle and Major Asa Kimball, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee for enlisting the said men; that for this purpose, the said committee be, and they are hereby, empowered to draw out of the general treasury the whole money collected and paid as aforesaid; that the said committee keep an exact account of all expenses, and the bounties paid by them, for procuring the said men, and render the same to the General Assembly, to whom they are to be accountable for the expenditure; that the committees of the several towns be reasonably paid for their trouble and service in making the said assessment; and that the expenses last mentioned be added to the sum of \$300, to be assessed and paid by the class deficient as aforesaid, together with the lawful fees due to the collector for collecting the same.

Provided, nevertheless, that if any class, now deficient, as aforesaid, shall themselves enlist, and procure to be mustered, a good, able-bodied effective man, within ten days from the rising of this Assembly, every such class shall be exempted from having the aforementioned assessment levied upon them, as aforesaid.

And whereas, the committee of the town of Glocester, hath not proceeded to class the inhabitants of that town, as heretofore required, which town is now deficient ten men of the number apportioned to them by the General Assembly,—

Be it thereof further enacted, that the attorney general prosecute the said committee according to law, for neglecting to class the inhabitants of the said town; that in case the said town of Glocester, shall not procure to be voluntarily enlisted and mustered the men of which they are deficient as aforesaid, within ten days from the rising of this Assembly, the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to issue his war

rant on the eleventh day after the rising of this Assembly, against the town treasurer of the said town, for collecting the sum of three hundred Spanish milled dollars for each man the said town shall be then deficient, in the same manner as in cases of delinquency of paying the state's taxes assessed in the usual manner, which warrant shall be returnable in ten days from the time of its being issued; and that Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Olney furnish the general treasurer with a return of the men wanting from said town on that day.

And it is ordered, that the secretary cause this act to be immediately printed, and send a copy thereof as soon as possible to the committee of each town where any class shall have had any person detached, and is now deficient as aforesaid, as ascertained by the return now before this Assembly, and one copy to the town clerk of Gloucester.

Voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

### *Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Elijah Lewis, for the time and expenses of his son in carrying certificates to the general and field officers in the county of Kings .....	2 10 07
Benjamin Bourne, assistant deputy quartermaster general, authorized to draw out of the general treasury, for the use of his department.....	600 00 00
Esau Thayer, a wounded soldier, for his support and maintenance.....	30 00 00
Uriah Stone, for losing an arm in the public service .....	15 00 00
Ezra Chase, a wounded soldier, who lost the use of both his hands .....	30 00 00
John Jenckes, for re-packing and trucking beef .....	55 05 04
Dr. Isaac Senter, for visiting, and medicines for Lieut. Johnson.....	9 16 10
Solomon Southwick, for printing, advertising, postage, &c. ....	32 12 00
Joseph Crandall, of Newport, for damages sustained by his house being enclosed in a fortification at Easton's Point .....	90 00 00
Thomas Clarke, of Newport, for certain damages sustained.....	10 00 00
Thomas Noyes, for a pay abstract for soldiers under his command.....	23 00 00
Elisha Mowry, Jr., for his time and expenses in appraising lands, &c. ....	10 00 00
Colonel Jeremiah Olney, for sundry expenses, &c. .....	19 00 07
Welcome Arnold, for flour delivered for the use of the troops .....	12 00 00
Bennett Wheeler, for printing.....	12 02 00
William Richmond and Pardon Gray, for settling Abner Durfee's account .....	3 00 00
William Taggart, for appraising and surveying lands, &c. ....	9 00 00
William Taggart, Robert Elliott and William Richmond, for estimating the damages done by the state to the farm rented by the state to Thomas Clarke .....	4 01 00
William Richmond, for finishing the appraisement of certain estates, &c. ..	11 14 00
Joseph Brown, for his attendance upon the General Assembly, as waiter..	4 10 00
Daniel Dunham, Jr., " " " " "	1 13 09
Thomas Rumreill, as one of the committee for examining the estimates...	20 09 00
Benjamin Peckham, " " " " "	23 00 00
Welcome Arnold, " " " " "	15 09 04
Stephen Potter, " " " " "	17 08 06
William Bradford, " " " " "	12 11 00
Richard Smith, Sheriff of Bristol county, for certain services rendered....	2 02 00
Shubael Kinnicutt, for warning the members of the General Assembly, &c.	2 05 00
William and Samuel Wall, for blankets delivered to Lieut. Col. Olney....	27 00 00

God save the United States of America.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Providence, on the fourth Monday in May, 1781.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

Whereas, John Warren, of Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that the superior court of judicature, court of assize and general jail delivery, which sat in Newport, in November last, upon a prosecution brought against him by the attorney general, sentenced him to pay a fine of £100, silver money, and costs, and to suffer three months' imprisonment, from the 18th day of said November; that the time assigned for his imprisonment hath long since expired, and he now remains in jail for the said fine and costs; and that he is absolutely unable to pay the same; and thereupon the said John Warren prayed this Assembly to remit the said fine and cost; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that upon the said John Warren's giving his note to the general treasurer, for the use of this state, for the said fine and cost, payable on demand, with interest, and recognizing for his good behaviour, agreeably to the sentence of the said court, he be discharged from jail upon the said prosecution; and that the clerk of the superior court for the county of Newport immediately make out the bill of cost against the said John Warren, and attend and take his note for the said fine and costs, and transmit the same to the general treasurer.

It is voted and resolved, that Christopher Ellery, Esq., Mr. Joseph Brown, John Jenckes, John Smith and Theodore Foster, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to make an estimate of the expenses of the current year.

and of the sums necessary for this Assembly to order taxes for at the present session; and also to devise ways and means for paying the expenses and exigent charges of government, and giving stability to the Continental currency of the new emission; and that they make report as soon as may be.

Whereas, the committee appointed to revise the general estimate presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
to Revise the General Estimate.*

We, the subscribers, a committee appointed by the honorable General Assembly, to ascertain the ratable property of each town within this state, do report the following sums affixed to each town respectively to be their ratable value, to the best of our knowledge:

COUNTIES.	TOWNS.	VALUE OF TOWNS.	VALUE OF COUNTIES.
Newport .....	Newport .....	£153,000	
	Portsmouth .....	51,000	
	Jamestown .....	17,000	
	Middletown .....	33,000	
	Tiverton .....	110,500	
Providence .....	Little Compton .....	89,300	
	Providence .....	215,000	
	Smithfield .....	200,000	
	Scituate .....	183,000	
	Glocester .....	158,000	
Kings .....	Cumberland .....	90,832	
	Cranston .....	123,340	
	Johnston .....	64,200	
	North Providence .....	45,874	
	Westerly .....	97,650	
Bristol .....	North Kingstown .....	148,650	
	South Kingstown .....	302,300	
	Charlestown .....	81,300	
	Richmond .....	70,360	
	Hopkinton .....	90,000	
Kent .....	Exeter .....	102,870	
	Bristol .....	65,240	
	Warren .....	39,000	
	Barrington .....	30,000	
	Warwick .....	176,100	
Kent .....	East Greenwich .....	79,600	
	West Greenwich .....	73,300	
	Coventry .....	100,000	
	Total value .....	£2,990,486	

THOMAS RUMREILL,  
WELCOME ARNOLD,  
BENJAMIN PECKHAM,

WILLIAM BRADFORD,  
STEPHEN POTTER.

And the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the aforesighted report be, and the same is hereby, accepted; and that the said valuation of the respective towns be, and the same is hereby, declared to be the standard for proportioning all the taxes and assessments to be made and levied upon the inhabitants of this state during the present session; but no longer, unless it be further agreed upon.

Whereas, Esek Hopkins and John Jenckes, Esqs., who were appointed a committee to settle the accounts of the officers and soldiers of this state's Continental battalion, presented unto this Assembly the following state of that account, and report thereon, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
to settle the Accounts of the Officers and Soldiers of the  
State's Continental Battalion.*

The officers and soldiers of the Rhode Island regiment who are in service, with the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, for depreciation, Dr.  
1781. £ s. d.

To three-quarters of the balance due to you, set off in lands as appears by the report of the committee.....	19,150 11 00
Feb. 15. To cash paid Col. Israel Angell by the general treasurer, and by him paid to the soldiers.....	231 06 00
To one-quarter part of £988 11s. 9d., being the balance due to twenty deserters (old soldiers) as per list .....	247 02 11
To one-quarter of £5,289 18s. 8d., being the balances due to the officers deranged and dead .....	1,322 09 08
To cash received of the general treasurer by divers officers, &c. ....	560 18 08
May 23. To cash paid Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Olney, out of the general treasury .....	2,032 08 00
" 29. Balance due to the officers and soldiers, paid by an order on the general treasury, in favor of Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Olney .....	2,008 04 10
	£25,553 01 01

1781. Creditor.

By the amount of the whole balance due, as settled by the committee February 8, 1781; three-quarters part payable in lands and one-quarter part in money.....	25,534 01 04
By cash Colonel Angell paid nineteen of the deserters 18s., each .....	17 02 00
By cash Colonel Angell overpaid J. Putney, A. Griffin and T. Hatfield; their quarter part being 16s. 3d., and he having paid them £2 14s... .	1 17 09
N. B. The men are now in actual service.	

Providence, May 29, 1781.

£26,553 01 01

We, the subscribers, report, that we have carefully examined the accounts of the officers and soldiers now in service in this state's Continental regiment; and that the above is a true state of the same.

EZEK HOPKINS,  
JOHN JENCKES,  
Committee.

And the said account and report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be accepted; and that the said account as above stated, stand balanced.

Whereas, Stephen Potter, Esq., Mr. John Weeden and William Taggart, Esq., presented unto this Assembly the following state of Capt. Gabriel Allin's account, and report thereon, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
to settle Capt. Gabriel Allen's Account.*

	State of Rhode Island, &c., in account current with Gabrel Allen,	Dr.
	£ s. d.	
1779.		
Dec. 18.	To cash paid Joseph Wiley, by order of Gen. Cornell, on ac- count of shoes and boots.....	130 04 0
1780.		
Nov. 3.	To cash paid do., in full of his account for making shoes and boots .....	59 12 0
	To cash paid do., for raw hides, which fell short, as appears by the receipt of the commissary of hides .....	9 00 0
	To my time and expense in going to Newport to settle with Mr. Channing .....	120 00 0
	Balance due to the state .....	68 19 0
		<hr/>
		£387 15 0
1779.	Creditor.	
By Cash received of the officers and soldlrs of Colonel Topham's regiment, for shoes and boots, as per account.....	130 04 0	
By cash received of Mr. Walter Channing, on account .....	139 03 0	
By cash received of Captain Alexander Thomas, being the surplus of re- cruiting money.....	100 00 0	
By cash received of Sergeant William Jones, for one pair of boots.....	8 08 0	
By cash stopped from Nathan Smith, by direction of General Cornell, he be- ing discharged before his timg of service expired .....	10 00 0	
		<hr/>
		£387 15 0

N. B. Mr. Channing certifies that £150, being the remainder of his account, was stopped by Mr. Nathaniel Mumford out of the gratuities to the soldiers on account of the above mentioned shoes and boots. Errors excepted,

Providence May 30, 1781.

GABRIEL ALLEN.

We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee to adjust the accounts of Captain Gabriel Allen, do report:

That we have carefully examined the same, and find a balance due to the state of £68 19s., old Continental currency; equal to £1 14s. 5d., Continental currency of the new emission.

N. B. The above mentioned sum of £150, retained by the said Nathaniel Mumford, is now in the hands of the agent-clothier for this state, for which he is accountable.

STEPHEN POTTER,  
JOHN WEEDEN,  
WILLIAM TAGGART.

And the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the aforesaid report be accepted; and that the said Gabriel Allen pay the aforesaid balance of £1 14s. 5d., in this state's Continental money of the new emission, into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Gideon Mumford, William Channing, Welcome Arnold, Theodore Foster and Rowse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the state of the treasury, and to know if this state hath made provision for sinking its whole proportion of the old Continental money; and that they also bring in a bill for regulating the courts of justice with respect to their entering up judgments in future for old Continental money; and also to regulate the judgments which are already made up and remain unsatisfied.

An Act for incorporating and bringing into the field five hundred able-bodied, effective men, of the militia, to serve within this state for one month, from the time of their rendezvous, and no longer; and not to be marched out of the same.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

*Officers of the Regiment*

Thomas Potter, Esq., lieutenant colonel.

John Whipple, Esq., major.

Phillip Traffan, Benjamin Howland, George Dorrance,

Jr., John Parke, Job Randall, Peter Lewis and Vial Allen, captains.

Lowry Jenckes, John Vial, Thomas Brand, Simeon Ballou, Samuel Bissell, Squire Fisk, Henry Northup and Pardon Burlingame, lieutenants.

Noah Ballou, William Bliss, Jr., Thomas Wells, Jr., Joseph Weaver, Thomas Webster Kinyon, Seth Thomas and Wm. Fuller, ensigns.

John Clarke, Surgeon.

Whereas, Esek Hopkins, Esq., and Col. Joseph Nightingale, who were appointed a committee by the council of war, to estimate the value of the use of a quantity of tackle and furniture belonging to the Pigot galley, which was lent to Captain Jeremiah Clarke and Company; and of several articles so lent which were lost, reported unto this Assembly that the sum of £96 7s. 3d., Continental money, of the new emission, is due for the same; and the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and is hereby, accepted; and that the said Jeremiah Clarke and Company forthwith pay into the general treasury the said sum of £96 7s. 3d., of this state's Continental money, of the new emission; which shall be in full satisfaction for the aforesaid tackle and furniture.

It is voted and resolved, that Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Olney be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of £90, in Continental money, of the new emission, out of the general treasury, to pay the reward for apprehending several deserters from the state's Continental battalion.

Abraham Redwood, Esq., of Newport, having preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that he hath a very valuable estate in the island of Antigua, which is now in the utmost disorder and confusion; and that unless some suitable person be employed to take care of the same, it will very soon be in the most ruinous condition; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to permit his brother Wm.

Redwood, late of Newport, aforesaid, to proceed to the island aforesaid, to put the affairs of the said estate into order, and upon the completion of the business, to return in such way as shall be most convenient; and that he go by the way of any neutral port, if opportunity should offer; or otherwise by the way of New York, under the direction of His Excellency the commander-in-chief of the army of the United States; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be so far granted, as to permit the said William Redwood to proceed to the said island of Antigua by way of any of the neutral ports, for the purposes aforesaid.

An Act in addition to the acts already passed, to prevent desertion.

It is enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof, that when bond shall be taken for the clearance of any trading vessel, or private vessel of war, or letter of marque, this further condition shall be inserted in such bond, to wit:

That the master or commander shall, before his sailing, deliver to one of the intendants of trade in this state a true list of all the persons who shall sail in his vessel, containing their names, an exact description and account of their stature, complexion, age, place of nativity, and of some one remarkable scar, or natural mark, if any such they have; and that if any master or commander shall carry any person in his vessel, of whom such a description shall not be given, it shall cause a forfeiture of his bond.

Both houses being joined in a grand committee, chose the gentlemen whose names are set down in the subsequent list to the offices ascribed to them respectively, to wit:

*Sundry Civil Officers Chosen.*

Daniel Manton, Esq., third assistant, in the room of John Sayles, Esq., who declined.

Sylvester Gardner, Esq., sixth assistant, in the room of John Northup, Esq., deceased.

Pardon Gray, Esq., fourth justice of the superior court of judicature, court of assize and general jail delivery, in and throughout the state, in the room of Ambrose Page, Esq., who declined.

David Howell, Esq., fifth justice of the same court, in the room of Pardon Gray, Esq., who is advanced.

Caleb Aldrich, Esq., third justice of the inferior court of common pleas, and general sessions of the peace, in and for the county of Providence, in the room of David Howell, Esq., who is promoted to the superior court.

Caleb Fisk, Esq., fourth justice of the same court, in the room of Caleb Aldrich, Esq., who is advanced.

Christopher Sheldon, fifth justice of the same court, in the room of Caleb Fisk, Esq., who is advanced.

Edward Perry, Esq., second justice of the inferior court of common pleas and general sessions of the peace, in and for the county of Kings, in the room of John Northup, Esq., deceased.

Abel Tanner, Esq., third justice of the same court, in the room of Edward Perry, Esq., who is advanced.

Robert Potter, Esq., fourth justice of the same court, in the room of Abel Tanner, Esq., who is advanced.

Sylvester Gardner, Esq., fifth justice of the same court, in the room of Robert Potter, Esq., who is advanced.

Charles Keene, Esq., inspector of steel, in and throughout the state.

Theodore Foster, Esq., register of the court of admiralty, in this state.

— Bogart, surgeon's mate, of the Continental battalion of this state; his appointment to take place from the 1st day of May, A. D. 1781.

*Officers in the several Battalions of Militia, in this State.*

FIRST BATTALION IN THE COUNTY OF PROVIDENCE.

John Whipple, Esq., major, in the room of James Burrill, Esq., who declined.

## ARTILLERY COMPANY.

Edward Spalding, captain-lieutenant; John Carpenter, lieutenant.

Senior class in the town of Providence—Benjamin Hoppin, captain; Samuel Black, lieutenant; Gabriel Allen, ensign.

Senior class in the town of Cranston—John Burton, Jr., captain; William Burton, lieutenant; Elisha Carpenter, ensign.

Senior class in the towns of Johnston and North Providence—Caleb Sheldon, captain; John Vial, lieutenant; Christopher Whipple, ensign.

## INFANTRY COMPANIES.

Providence. First company—Jos. Allen, captain; Isaac Bowen, lieutenant; Jeremiah Jenckes, ensign.

Second company—Bennett Wheeler, captain; Grindall Reynolds, lieutenant; Robert Taylor, Jr., ensign.

Third company—James Wheaton, captain; Seth Wheaton, lieutenant; Simeon Olney, ensign.

Fourth company—Joseph Fuller, captain; Joseph Snow, Jr., lieutenant; Lemuel Field, ensign.

Cranston. First company—Thomas Congdon, captain; George Colvin, lieutenant; Oliver Roberts, ensign.

Second company—Frederick Williams, captain; Nathaniel Carpenter, lieutenant; John Harris, ensign.

Third company—Nehemiah Burlingame, captain; Pardon Burlingame, lieutenant; Gideon Manchester, ensign.

Johnston. First company—Daniel Sprague, captain; John Alverson, lieutenant; Arnold Fenner, ensign.

Second company—Laban Waterman, captain; Ezekiel Olney, lieutenant; Pardon Sheldon, ensign.

North Providence—Thomas Olney, Jr., captain; Ethan Whipple, lieutenant; Ezekiel Whipple, ensign.

First battalion in the county of Kings—John Gavet, Esq., major.

## ARTILLERY COMPANY.

Ichabod Burdick, captain-lieutenant; Nathan Barber, Jr., lieutenant.

Senior class of the town of Westerly—Peleg Berry, captain; Stephen Saunders, lieutenant; Nathaniel Lewis, ensign.

Senior class in the town of Charlestown—Joseph Wilcox, captain; Samuel Thompson, lieutenant; Charles Church, ensign.

Senior class in the town of Hopkinton—Thomas Wells, 2d, captain; Elias Coon, lieutenant.

## INFANTRY COMPANIES.

Westerly. First company—Oliver Lewis, captain; Thos Brand, lieutenant; Nathan Pendleton, ensign.

Second company—William Bliven, captain; Joseph Peckham, lieutenant; Edward Ross, ensign.

Third company—George Stillman, captain; Peleg Saunders; lieutenant; Asa Maxson, ensign.

Charlestown. First company—John Parke, captain; Christopher Babcock, Jr., lieutenant; John Taylor, ensign.

Second company—Beriah Lewis, captain; Peleg Cross, Jr., lieutenant; John Greene, ensign.

Hopkinton. First company—Henry Wells, captain; Sylvanus Maxson, lieutenant; Thomas Wells, Jr., ensign.

Second company—Randall Wells, captain; Billings Burch, lieutenant.

Third company—Phinehas Maxson, captain; George Maxson, lieutenant; Zaccheus Maxson, ensign.

Bristol. Senior class—Thomas Allen, captain; Benjamin Bosworth, lieutenant; Shubael Kinnicut, ensign.

## INFANTRY COMPANIES.

Bristol—William Throop, captain; Joseph Reynolds, lieutenant; Jonathan Diman, ensign.

Warren—Curtis Coe, captain ; Thomas Easterbrooke, lieutenant ; Ichabod Cole, ensign.

Barrington—Vial Allen, captain ; Daniel Kinnicut, lieutenant ; John Short, ensign.

First battalion in the county of Kent—Thomas Tillinghast, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant ; Job Pearce, Esq., major.

#### AETILLERY COMPANY.

Oliver Gardner, captain-lieutenant ; Oliver Corey, lieutenant.

Senior class—Robert Rhodes, captain ; Hopkins Cooke, lieutenant ; Philip Wightman, ensign.

#### INFANTRY COMPANIES.

Warwick. First company—Job Randall, captain ; James Arnold, Jr., lieutenant ; John Warner, Jr., ensign.

Second company—Squire Millard, captain ; James Jerauld, lieutenant ; John Stafford, ensign.

Third company—Thomas Rice (son of Thomas), captain ; Anthony Holden, lieutenant ; Robert Edmonds, ensign.

East Greenwich. First company—Micah Whitmarsh, captain ; Edward Weeden, lieutenant ; John Hall, ensign.

Second company—Allen Johnson, captain ; Mumford Davis, lieutenant ; Josiah Jones, Jr., ensign.

Second battalion in the county of Newport—William Southworth, Esq., major, in the room of John Davis, Esq., who declined.

#### INFANTRY COMPANIES.

Tiverton. First company—Peleg Simmons, captain ; Philip Manchester, lieutenant ; Redford Dennis, ensign.

Second company—Richard Durfee, captain ; Humphry Shearman, lieutenant ; Edward Bailey, ensign.

Third company—Benjamin Howland, captain ; Benjamin Devol, lieutenant ; Elihu Giffard, ensign.

Little Compton. First company—Benjamin Coe, captain; Isaac Wood, lieutenant; John Bailey, ensign.

Second company—Steph. Pearce, captain; Rowse Pearce, lieutenant; William Coe, ensign.

#### SECOND BATTALION IN THE COUNTY OF PROVIDENCE.

Senior class in the town of Smithfield—Job Mowry, captain; George Streeter, lieutenant; Abraham Winsor, ensign. {

Senior class in the town of Cumberland—Levi Tower, captain; Jesse Ballou, lieutenant; Joseph Raze, Jr., ensign.

#### INFANTRY COMPANIES.

Smithfield. First company—Benjamin Ballou, captain; Rufus Streeter, lieutenant; Simon Whipple, ensign.

Second company—Ebenezer Trask, captain; Simeon Ballou, lieutenant; Eli Read, ensign.

Third company—John Carpenter, captain; Sam. Holmes, lieutenant; William Fuller, ensign.

Cumberland. First company—Amaziah Wetherhead, captain; Christopher Whipple, lieutenant; Gideon Sprague, ensign.

Second company—Amos Whipple, captain; Squire Fisk, lieutenant; Noah Ballou, Jr., ensign.

#### SECOND BATTALION IN THE COUNTY OF KINGS—ARTILLERY COMPANY.

Richard Updike, captain-lieutenant; James Boone, lieutenant.

Senior class in the town of North Kingstown—Samuel Phillips, captain; Samuel Northup, lieutenant; Thomas Bissell, ensign.

Senior class in the town of Exeter—David Herrington, captain; Samuel Bissell, lieutenant; Benjamin Shearman, ensign.

## INFANTRY COMPANIES.

North Kingstown. First company—Samuel Dyer, captain; William Davis, lieutenant; Stukely Hill, ensign.

Second company—Lawrence Pearce, captain; Henry Northup, lieutenant; Samuel Cole, ensign.

Third company—John Brown, Jr., captain; Beriah Waite, lieutenant; Joshua Brown, ensign.

Fourth company—Nathaniel Shearman, captain; James Owen, lieutenant; William Browning, ensign.

Exeter. First company—Robert Reynolds, Jr., captain; William Potter, lieutenant; James Bates, ensign.

Second company—Samuel Gorton, captain; Robert Perigo, lieutenant; Benjamin Brown, Jr., ensign.

Second battalion in the county of Kent. Senior class in the town of West Greenwich—Joseph Hopkins, captain; William Potter, lieutenant; James Bates, ensign.

Senior class in the town of Coventry—Abel Bennett, captain; Job Greene, lieutenant; Jonathan Nichols, ensign.

## INFANTRY COMPANIES.

West Greenwich. First company—Samuel Hopkins, captain; Joseph Niles, lieutenant; Joseph Dolliver, Jr., ensign.

Second company—Benj. Gorton, captain; Caleb Greene, lieutenant; Joseph Weaver, ensign.

Third company—Joseph Draper, captain; Joseph James, lieutenant; Judiah Aylworth, Jr., ensign.

Coventry. First company—Joseph Brayton, captain; Ichabod Potter, lieutenant; Noell Potter, ensign.

Second company—William Roy, captain; Lowry Jenckes, lieutenant; Oliver Wickes, ensign.

Third company—Langford Weaver, captain; Samuel Greene (son of Nathaniel), lieutenant; Samuel Whaley, ensign.

Fourth company—Asaph Bennett, captain; Joseph Rice, lieutenant; Moses Blanchard, ensign.

THIRD BATTALION IN THE COUNTY OF PROVIDENCE—ARTILLERY CO.

Isaac Medbury, Jr., captain; Job Fisk, Jr., lieutenant.

Senior class—Nathan Relph, captain; Joseph Kimbal, lieutenant; Nathaniel Lovel, ensign.

INFANTRY COMPANIES.

Scituate. First company—John Potter, captain; Zebedee Snow, Jr., lieutenant; Oliver Leach, ensign.

Second company—George Dorrance, Jr., captain; Thos. Potter, lieutenant; John Johnson, ensign.

Third company—Gideon Harris, captain; Wm. Brownell, lieutenant; Caleb Westcot, ensign.

Fourth company—Isaac Paine, captain; John Cole, Jr., lieutenant; Richard Cole, Jr., ensign.

Fifth company—Samuel Wilbur, captain; Peter Pearce, lieutenant; Benjamin Wood, ensign.

Sixth company—William Howard, captain; James Wells, lieutenant; John Hammond, ensign.

THIRD BATTALION IN THE COUNTY OF KINGS—ARTILLERY COMPANY.

Thomas Gardner, captain-lieutenant; Allen Gardner, lieutenant.

Senior class in the town of South Kingstown—William Taylor, captain; Gardner W. Mumford, lieutenant; James Cotterell, ensign.

Senior class in the town of Richmond—Thomas Tafft, captain; John Woodmansie, lieutenant; Samuel Clarke, ensign.

INFANTRY COMPANIES.

South Kingstown. First company—Timothy Lock, Jr., captain; Daniel Tafft, lieutenant; William Steadman, ensign.

Second company—Paris Gardner, captain; James Reynold, lieutenant; Elisha Potter (son of Benjamin), ensign.

Third company—Godfrey Hazard, captain; Thos. Champlin, lieutenant; Joseph Hull, Jr., ensign.

Fourth company—Daniel Shearnan, captain; Jeremiah Knowles, lieutenant; John Gardner, Jr., ensign.

Richmond. First company—Joshua Webb, captain; Asa Clark, lieutenant; Joseph Enos, ensign.

Second company—John Clarke, captain; Samuel Stanton, lieutenant; Thomas W. Kinyon, ensign.

#### FOURTH BATTALION IN THE COUNTY OF PROVIDENCE—ARTILLERY CO.

Thomas Wood, captain-lieutenant; William Arnold, lieutenant.

Senior class—Thomas Wells, captain; Benjamin Tourtelot, lieutenant; Jacob Bowen, ensign.

#### INFANTRY COMPANIES.

Glocester. First company—Peter Lewis, captain; Henry Wheeler, lieutenant; Zephaniah Keach, ensign.

Second company—Samuel May, captain; James Colwell, lieutenant; Arnold Smith, ensign.

Third company—Nathaniel Wade, captain; John Pray, lieutenant; Esek Brown, ensign.

Fourth company—Isaac Ross, captain; Jeremiah Irons, lieutenant; Seth Ross, ensign.

Whereas, the committee, for the town of Warwick, did assess the class in the said town, whereof Benjamin Arnold, Esq., was head, in the sum of \$300, silver money, for not furnishing a recruit for the said class; and whereas, it appears since, that the said class has furnished a recruit, agreeably to the requisition of this Assembly.—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Benjamin Arnold be, and he is hereby, empowered to receive the sums of money assessed upon the said class, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of procuring the said recruit.

Whereas, Stephen Potter and Esek Hopkins, Esqs., who were appointed to examine the account of Captain Samuel Tompkins, presented unto this Assembly the following account, and report thereon, to wit:

*Report of the Committees appointed by the General Assembly relative to the settlement of sundry accounts.*

State of Rhode Island, &c., to Samuel Tompkins, Dr.  
For a quantity of stock belonging to me, taken from the island of Providence, on the 2d of September, A. D. 1775, and valued at the time by a committee, to wit:

	£ s. d.
Forty-four sheep, at 12s. ....	26 08 00
One yoke of oxen.....	19 10 00
Two " " at £15 per yoke.....	30 00 00
One ox .....	9 00 00
" cow .....	5 08 00
Seven young cattle.....	28 17 60
	<hr/>
To interest on £119 3s. 6d., for five years and nine months .....	£119 03 6
	47 11 11
	<hr/>
	£166 15 05

STEPHEN POTTER,  
ESEK HOPKINS,

Committee.

Providence, June 1, 1781:

We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee to examine and adjust the accounts for collecting and delivering blankets, for the use of the men enlisted into Col. Greene's Continental regiment for six months, do report:

That there is due for that service to the several persons undernamed, the sums set against their names respectively, in silver money, to wit:

	£ s. d.
To Mr. Nathaniel Perkins, of South Kingstown .....	4 10 0
" Richard Smith, Esq., of Bristol .....	1 04 0
" Mr. Giles Lawton, of Portsmouth.....	1 07 0
" " Timothy Peckham, of South Kingstown.....	1 16 0
" " Joseph Cross, of Charlestown .....	2 00 0
" " Aaron Simmons, of Little Compton.....	2 00 0
" " Sheffield Wilcox, of Richmond.....	1 04 0
" " Stephen Congdon, of North Kingstown .....	12 0
" Capt. Stephen Jenckes, of North Providence.....	15 0

No other accounts for that service have been presented to us.

WILLIAM RICHMOND,  
JOSEPH STANTON, JR.,  
THOMAS HOLDEN,

Providence, May 30, 1781.

Committee.

[The report was accepted, and the several accounts ordered to be paid.]

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Bristol notify Messrs. Robert Carr, Curtis Cole, Caleb Carr and Benajah Cole, all of the county aforesaid, to appear before this Assembly at the next session, to answer a complaint against them for taking certain articles from a sloop, lately belonging to Mr. Robert Lawton.

In Council was read the return of the officers, chosen to command the Gloucester Light Infantry Company, who are as followeth, to wit :

Timothy Wilmarth, captain ; Martin Smith, first lieutenant ; Elijah Armstrong, second lieutenant ; Ezekiel Brown, ensign.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said choice be, and hereby is, approved.

Upon the petition of a considerable part of the second trained band or company of militia, in the town of Westerly,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said company be, and hereby is, divided into two companies, in the following manner, to wit :

By a line beginning at the Charlestown line to the eastward of William Crandall's house ; and thence running west to the said house, leaving the same in the upper or fourth company ; from thence, running northerly to Jonathan Sisson's house, leaving the same in the said upper or fourth company ; and from thence to the meadow brook ; and that all to the northward of the said line be embodied into a company, by the name of the Fourth Trained Band, or Company of Militia, of the town of Westerly.

Whereas, David Glegg, master, and William Smith, mate, of the schooner Flying Fish ; and Samuel Spencer and Josiah Hodges (for himself, his wife, and two children), passengers in the said schooner, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that being bound from New

York to the island of Bermuda, of which they are all inhabitants, they were taken and brought into this state, and here detained as prisoners of war, at a great expense; and that if they may be permitted to return to the said island, they will engage upon their honors to send back, either from Bermuda or New York, a like number of prisoners of equal rank; and thereupon they prayed this Assembly to permit them, at their sole expense, to hire a small vessel, to be qualified as a flag of truce, to carry them to the said island; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be granted; they giving their paroles to the commissary of prisoners in this state, and engaging to return a like number of prisoners of equal rank; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to issue a commission for that purpose, in the usual form.

Provided nevertheless, that the vessel which shall be so qualified, do not sail without the approbation of the commander-in-chief of His Most Christian Majesty's fleet, in the harbor of Newport.

Whereas, William Taggart, Esq., Mr. William Langley and Christopher Ellery, Esq., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
relative to certain Magazines of Sea-Coal, in Newport.*

The subscribers being appointed to inquire into the circumstances of some magazines of sea-coal left in the town of Newport by the enemy, at their evacuation, do report:

That from the best information your committee hath been able to procure, Thos. Freebody, Esq., took and sold upwards of one thousand bushels of the said sea-coal, at the rate of one silver dollar per bushel, and applied the same to his own use; which the said Thomas Freebody alleged was given him by the enemy, in consideration of the use of his stores. All which is submitted by—

WILLIAM TAGGART,  
WILLIAM LANGLEY,  
CHRISTOPHER ELLERY,  
Committee.

On consideration whereof,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be received,

and referred to the next session; and that in the mean time the secretary cause the said Thomas Preebody to be served with a copy thereof, and cited to appear at the next session of this Assembly, to show cause, if any he hath, why he should not pay the said money into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to issue warrants of distress on the 11th day of June, A. D. 1781, against the town treasurers of each respective town in this state, that shall be deficient in paying into the general treasury the whole amount of the sums assessed against them respectively for raising and paying into the general treasury £1,000,000, Continental money, of the old emissions; and that the said warrants be returnable in ten days after date.

It is voted and resolved, that the towns which are deficient in paying into the general treasury the sums assessed upon them, respectively, for procuring beef be, and they are hereby, required to pay the same into the general treasury, on or before the 8th day of June, A. D. 1781, with interest from the 5th day of May, preceding; that in case any town shall neglect to pay the same, as aforesaid, such town shall forfeit and pay into the general treasury double the sum it shall be in arrear; and that the general treasurer on the 9th day of June, aforesaid, issue his warrants of distress for collecting the same.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that the collectors of taxes for the several towns in this state have refused to collect the money assessed upon the classes for filling up the Continental battalion of this state,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that if any collector of taxes shall for the space of three days after he shall be tendered a rate-bill from the committee of such town for classing, refuse to receive and collect the same, the sheriff of the county in which such town lies, or his deputy, shall receive such rate-bill, and execute the same according to the true intent and meaning thereof, and deliver the money

so collected to the chairman of the committee from whom he shall receive it; for collecting and paying which, such sheriff, or his deputy, shall receive double fees.

It is further voted and resolved, that if any collector of taxes hath received such rate-bill from a committee to collect the money assessed upon a class, and hath neglected, or shall neglect, to execute the same according to the true intent and meaning thereof, such committee shall and may prosecute such a collector at a special court, to be called and holden in the same manner as special courts are in other cases directed by law to be called and holden; and upon conviction, shall pay all costs, charges and damages that collectors of rates are liable to, by law, in other cases.

And it is further voted and resolved, that in all cases of refusal or neglect, the attorney general be, and he is hereby, directed to prosecute all such delinquent collectors according to the act passed at the session in January last, in addition to the act passed in November last, for filling up the Continental battalion of this state.

Whereas, the general treasurer of this state hath, in pursuance of an order of this Assembly, issued his warrant against the town treasurers of several towns which are deficient in paying the taxes assessed upon them respectively; which warrants were returnable on the 1st day of June, A. D. 1781, upon which several of them have been committed to, and now remain in jail; and whereas, a further time is requested for the said delinquent towns to pay in their deficiencies; and this Assembly being willing to show every reasonable indulgence,—

Do vote and resolved, and it is voted and resolved, that the town treasurers committed as aforesaid, be enlarged from their present confinement; that the said delinquent towns be empowered to collect and pay the sums, together with the interest and fees of the officers due from them respectively, at any time before the 12th day of June, aforesaid; that upon a certificate from the general treasurer

being produced to the sheriff, or his deputy, who is in possession of any of the said warrants that the money hath been so paid such officer, shall return the same satisfied; that in case such certificate be not produced, nor the money paid, on the said 12th day of June, to the officer who hath the executing of any of the said warrants, such officer shall commit to close jail in the county to which he belongs, every town treasurer against whom warrants have been issued as aforesaid, and which remain unsatisfied as aforesaid; and that the keepers of the jails in this state, respectively receive such town treasurers into their custody, and keep them confined until the sums due from their respective towns be fully satisfied.

And to enable the collectors of taxes to collect the money to discharge the said town treasurers,—

It is further voted and resolved, that the said collectors be, and they are hereby, empowered to make sale of the cattle, or goods, which shall be distrained in payment of the said taxes, and of their fees, in five days after such distress shall be made; any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Whereas, His Excellency Count de Rochambeau, general of His Most Christian Majesty's army in this state, hath represented, that it may be necessary for the removing the baggage and stores of the said army from Newport to Providence, to impress a number of teams; wherefore, that the said army may not be impeded in its march,—

It is voted and resolved, that George Irish, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed and fully empowered to impress such a number of teams in the county of Newport as shall be required by the Count de Rochambeau, for the transportation of the said baggage and stores from Newport to Bristol Ferry; that Nathaniel Fales, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed and fully empowered to impress a sufficient number of teams within the county of Bristol, to convey the said baggage and store from Bristol Ferry to Providence; and that the said George Irish and Nathaniel Fales

be empowered to appoint certain persons under them, to assist in performing the said service; and also to employ suitable persons to drive and take charge of such teams as the owners do not attend upon themselves.

Whereas, it is highly expedient that a body of troops, completely armed and accoutred, should be on the island of Rhode Island, on or before Tuesday, the 5th day of June, A. D. 1781, to be stationed at such places as the commander of that post shall deem necessary for the safety and defence thereof,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the following independent companies, to wit: the Artillery of Providence, the Kentish Guards, the Kingstown Reds and the Pawtuxet Rangers, forthwith turn out one-half of the men belonging to their respective corps, to march to Newport, to be upon the ground by the said 5th day of June, there to do duty for one month; that the men so furnished by the said independent companies be accounted to the towns to which they respectively belong, and be reckoned as so many men furnished towards their quota of five hundred men ordered to be raised at the present session; that the said independent companies be led by their own officers; that the towns of Tiverton and Little Compton forthwith furnish one hundred and two men, to be at Newport on the said fifth day of June, to do duty for ten days, which shall be in lieu of their furnishing their quota for one month's service; that the said town of Tiverton furnish fifty-seven, and the said town of Little Compton forty-five, of the aforesaid men, who are to be led by the militia officers of the said towns; that they all be under the command of the commanding officer of the post at Rhode Island; and that the whole of the aforesaid men, who shall do duty as aforesaid, shall be excused from doing further duty until the remaining part of the men in their respective towns shall have done an equal tour of duty.

It being represented unto this Assembly that the Conti-

mental post-riders, who pass through this state, will soon be under the necessity of quitting that employment, unless they can have their accounts settled, and the money due to them paid,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to write to the delegates of this state in Congress, and instruct them to represent to Congress the many disadvantages that must attend a stoppage of the posts from passing through this state, and to urge in the strongest terms for the settlement of their accounts, and the payment of the sums due to them, as soon as possible.

Whereas, Christopher Ellery, Rowse J. Helme and Thomas Rumreill, Esqrs., presented unto this Assembly a state of the account of Charles Holden, Jr., Esq., and report thereon as follows, to wit :

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
relative to the account of Charles Holden, Jr.*

	State of Rhode Island, &c., in account with Charles Holden, Jr.	Dr. £ s. d.
1781.		
To the amount of supplies purchased with money, as per the account of particulars annexed.....	11,159 7 2	
To the amount of supplies purchased with certificates, as per the account of particulars annexed.....	16,250 12 2	
	<hr/>	
	£27,419 19 4	
To my commissions on £27,419 19s. 4d., at 1 per cent.....	274 3 11	
	<hr/>	
	£27,694 3 3	
1780.	Creditor.	
By cash received of the general treasurer at sundry times.....	10,324 1 11	
By beef received of sundry persons, tenants to the state, on account of rent, amounting to.....	711 4 6	
By 2,465 lbs. beef, delivered by Col. Crary and Mr. Demount, to the workmen, in part of payment for labor.....	58 8 11	
By the amount of certificates issued by me on the general treasurer .....	16,260 12 2	
Balance due to Charles Holden, Jr.....	339 15 9	
	<hr/>	
	£27,694 3 3	
	Errors excepted.	

Providence, June 2, 1781.

CHARLES HOLDEN, JR.

We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee to examine and adjust the accounts of Charles Holden, Jr., Esq., commissary general of purchases for this state, having examined the vouchers for the expenditures, and money received from, and certificates issued upon the general treasurer by him, do find the above balance of three hundred and thirty-nine pounds, fifteen shillings and nine pence, due to the said Charles Holden, Jr.

We also report that we have examined the vouchers for the delivery of the purchases, and find them agree with the annexed account of particulars.

CHRISTOPHER ELLERY,

ROWSE J. HELME,

THOMAS RUMRIELL,

Committee.

And the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby, accepted; and that for the said balance, being three hundred and thirty-nine pounds, fifteen shillings and nine pence, the general treasurer give his note to the said Charles Holden, Jr., payable on demand, in silver money, with interest until paid; which note, when paid, will be in full of the said account.

It is voted and resolved, that Thankful Slocum, the wife of Eleazer Slocum, a refugee, be permitted to go in the first cartel vessel to her said husband, who is in New York, and to carry her little daughter with her, under the direction and inspection of the commander of the post at Rhode Island.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer of this state, be, and he is hereby, empowered to employ a suitable person to assist him in the said office, from time to time, as the business thereof may require.

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kings county, either by himself or deputy, immediately take possession of the real estate of David Benjamin, in Exeter, in behalf of this state; and also of the cattle late belonging to Thomas Reynolds, in Exeter, in whose possession soever the same may be.

It is voted and resolved, that John Jenckes and Welcome Arnold, Esqrs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to purchase, immediately, cloth, and to procure a

sufficient number of tents to be made therewith; and to forward them as soon as possible to head-quarters, for the use of the Continental battalion of this state; and that William Channing, Esq., pay to the said committee the necessary sums of money for the purpose aforesaid, out of the money arising from the sale of the goods condemned to and for the use of this state, by a judgment of the superior court.

An Act for granting and apportioning a tax of twenty thousand pounds, in silver or gold, upon the inhabitants of this state.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Webster Kinyon, Remington Clarke, Weeden Clarke and William Rogers, all of Richmond, be empowered to subscribe the test heretofore ordered to be subscribed by the inhabitants of this state; and that thereupon they be entitled to all the privileges enjoyed by those who have already subscribed the same.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Benjamin West be, and he is hereby, appointed to re-survey the farms lying in Bristol, which Mr. John Brown purchased, late belonging to William Vassal, and which Messrs. Fales, Bourne and Smith purchased, late belonging to John Borland; that Messrs. Matthew Manchester and Peter Burlingame carry the chain; that Caleb Harris and Thomas Holden, Esqs., attend in behalf of this state, at the times and places of the re-survey; that the said Benjamin West make an accurate survey of the farms aforesaid, and plat the same; and that the said Benjamin West, Matthew Manchester and Peter Burlingame have the sole determining how near the sea or salt water the same be measured.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if upon the re-survey the said farms shall be found to contain a number of acres less than they were surveyed for, the expense of the

re-survey shall be paid by the state, and the difference shall be allowed to the purchasers; and that, if the said farms shall be found to contain an equal or greater number of acres than they were surveyed for, the purchasers shall pay the said expense, and for the overplus land.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of Mr. John Bours, respecting the claim of Messrs. Willing and Morris, of Philadelphia, to certain sequestered estates in Tiverton, late the property of Naphtali and Isaac Hart, be received; and that the matters represented in the said petition be referred to William Channing, William Taggart and Timothy Waterhouse, Esqs., who are to make inquiry into the same, and report to this Assembly as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved that Lieut. Col. Samuel Ward be, and he is hereby, appointed and directed to complete the abstracts of the wages due to the non-commissioned officers and privates who enlisted for six months in the regiment commanded by Col. Christopher Greene; that he make out certificates of the sums due to them respectively, and transmit the same to the town treasurers of the towns by which they were severally enlisted, to be by them delivered to the individuals to whom the money is due; and that the general treasurer and collectors of taxes in the several towns receive the said certificates in payment of so much of the tax for silver money, ordered at the present session, as they express.

It is further voted and resolved, that Brigadier General Nathan Miller be, and he is hereby, appointed and directed to complete the abstracts of the militia officers and men who did duty in pursuance of an act passed at this Assembly in February last; that he make out certificates of the sums due to them respectively, and transmit the same to the town treasurers of the towns to which they severally belong, to be by them delivered to the individuals to whom the money is due; and that the general treasurer and collectors of taxes in the several towns receive the said certifi-

cates in payment of so much of the aforesaid tax as they express.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the general treasurer and collectors of taxes in the several towns also receive the certificates granted by Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney, Major Ebenezer Flagg, Lieutenant Oliver Jenckes or John Reynolds, Esq., for blankets by them received in pursuance of an act of this Assembly passed in November, A. D. 1780, in payment of so much of the said tax as they express; allowing twenty shillings, silver money, for each blanket, estimated at eighty pounds old Continental money, and in the same proportion for one of a less value.

#### An Act constituting a council of war.

Whereas, His Excellency, General Washington, hath recommended to this state to invest the executive authority with full powers, during the recess of the General Assembly, to comply with any further necessary requisition that he may make for men, provisions, or for the means of transportation.

And whereas, from the present appearances, there is reason to apprehend that this state, in the course of the campaign, may be subject to invasion; and unless the necessary powers to call forth the strength of the state in cases of imminent danger, be invested in a suitable council, the safety of the state may be greatly endangered.

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that a council of war be constituted, to consist of five members, three of whom shall make a quorum; that the said council, when called by His Excellency the Governor, or His Honor the Deputy Governor, shall and may, in the recess of the General Assembly, make, ordain, constitute and appoint all such orders, decrees, regulations and commands of a military nature, necessary for calling forth the strength of this state, in all cases that require sudden and immediate dispatch; and

that such their orders, decrees, regulations and commands, shall be as valid as though enacted and ordained by this General Assembly.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the sum of fifteen shillings, silver money, per day, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, to each of the members who shall necessarily attend.

Whereas, the dwelling house and lot of land, in Providence, late belonging to Gilbert Deblois, hath been assigned to Captain William Allen, on account of depreciation due to him and to the other officers of Col. Angell's regiment,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that, upon a certificate being produced to the general treasurer, from Col. Israel Angell and Capt. William Tew, who are the agents for the said regiment, that the said William Allen hath paid and duly accounted with the officers of the same for the amount of the money at which the said estate was appraised, that then the general treasurer make and execute a deed, conveying to the said William Allen all the right, title, interest and property of the said Gilbert Deblois, in the said lot of land and dwelling house, warranting the same against all claims of the said Gilbert Deblois, or of any other person claiming under him.

An Act in addition to an act passed in December, A. D. 1780, entitled "An Act ascertaining the depreciation of the bills of public credit, and fixing the value of private contracts in Spanish milled dollars, since the same have been in circulation, &c."

Whereas, the depreciation of the paper currency is ascertained in the aforesaid act only up to the 1st day of April, A. D. 1780, since which time there hath been a still further and great depreciation thereof; and in order that justice may be done, it is necessary that the same should be ascertained to the present time; and that the courts of law

should be directed in what manner to make up judgments and issue executions for contracts in the paper currency;

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the following table or estimate, exhibiting the value of the paper currency in Spanish milled dollars, shall be the standard for fixing the value of all contracts, in bills of credit of the United States, issued before the 18th of March, 1780, made since the said 1st day of April, A. D. 1780, to the 30th day of May, 1781, and that the several courts of law within this state shall govern themselves by the same, in making up judgments, to wit: —

From April 1, 1780, to April 20, one Spanish milled dollar was equal to forty of the old emissions of Continental currency.

To April 25,.....	42	To September 10,.....	71
" " 30,.....	44	" October 15,.....	72
" May 6,.....	46	" November 10,.....	73
" " 10,.....	47	" " 30,.....	74
" " 15,.....	49		1781.
" " 20,.....	54	To February 27,.....	75
" " 25,.....	60	" April 15,.....	76
" " 30,.....	62	" " 20,.....	77
" June 10,.....	64	" " 25,.....	78
" " 15,.....	68	" " 30,.....	79
" " 20,.....	69	" May 15,.....	80
" August 15,.....	70	" " 30,.....	160

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the courts of law in this state be, and they hereby are, directed and required to make up and enter their judgments, in all cases, for lawful money, in silver or gold, as ascertained in an act of the General Assembly, passed at June session, A. D. 1763, entitled "An Act declaring what is and shall be lawful money," &c.; and that all costs arising in any suit at law, of what kind soever, and officers' fees, shall be computed in like lawful money, and shall, on account of the raised prices of the necessaries of life in general, be twenty-five per cent., or one-quarter part, more than as allowed by law in the year 1774. And all fines, penalties and

forfeitures shall be computed in like lawful money, equal in value to the sums specified.

And whereas, the Continental paper bills of the old emissions have been considered as a medium of trade, and a measure in dealings, in lieu of money, for which obligations have been given and are not yet discharged; and the said bills, by the general consent of the people, have in great measure ceased to circulate as a currency; and the Continental bills of the new emission have been also considered as a medium of trade, and for which like obligations have been given; and experience hath shown that they are likewise liable to depreciation, and great contests and disputes may arise between debtors and creditors, in determining what shall be a just equivalent for such debts;—

Therefore, for the better securing of property, and for causing impartial justice to be done,—

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all contracts made for Continental bills of the old or new emissions, or debts for which depreciation is due by law from persons who have received monies for others in paper bills, may be discharged by paying the just value of such debts in silver or gold lawful money, or bills of the new emission issued by this state, pursuant to a resolve of Congress of the 18th of March, 1780; which value shall be ascertained by the aforesaid scales of depreciation, and such scale of depreciation as shall be agreed upon and established by the superior court of judicature, &c., as herein after mentioned.

And be it further enacted, that notwithstanding execution shall issue from the courts of law, for levying and collecting the just value of any paper money debts as aforesaid, in silver or gold, yet the person against whom the same is issued may discharge such part of the execution as shall be due from him for a paper money debt as aforesaid, by paying the value of the sum of gold or silver specified in the execution to be due from him as aforesaid, in Conti-

ental bills of the new emission, issued in this state, pursuant to said resolve of Congress, of the 18th day of March, 1780, at the current exchange on the day he shall pay the same; which value and current exchange shall be determined from time to time by the justices of the superior court of judicature, &c., who for this purpose shall meet, if necessary, once a month, and oftener in case of an apparent depreciation of said bills of the new emission; and who shall monthly notify the rate of exchange between the said bills and Spanish milled dollars, in the newspapers of this state; and that the sheriff who shall have such execution shall pay the same immediately to the person in whose favor it is issued, or on default thereof shall pay to such person the depreciation of the money while in his hands; but in case the sheriff shall be obliged to collect the said money due on such execution by sale of goods, chattels or real estate, he shall receive gold or silver only in discharge thereof.

And be it further enacted, that the reckoning of the depreciation of said bills, as ascertained by the three scales aforesaid, shall be considered as having reference to each day specified, and as having taken place regularly and progressively, in equal degrees, from any day specified in said scales to the next specified day.

And it is further enacted, that judgments of court already obtained for paper money debts, and whereon executions have been issued and are not yet returned, and all judgments for paper money, may be discharged by paying to the person in whose favor such judgment is passed, or to the officer in possession of such execution, the just value thereof at the time such judgment was rendered, in bills of the new emission, issued by this state as aforesaid, which value shall be ascertained, in case of execution being issued, by the officer who has the same, from the said scales of depreciation. Provided, nevertheless, that until the scale of depreciation of the new emission as aforesaid shall be

published by said court, any officer now possessed of any execution may receive, in discharge thereof, one dollar in the new emission of Continental currency for twelve pounds of the old emissions, and in like proportion for a greater or less sum; and that any person in whose favor any execution hath been issued, may, if he sees fit, order it to be returned for an alias, that the value of such judgment may be justly ascertained.

And whereas, creditors are often injured by being unreasonably delayed from their just dues, from the length of time between the courts,—

Be it therefore enacted, that all executions from the inferior or superior courts, shall be returnable in three months from the time of issuing such executions.

And it is further enacted, that this act be in force immediately from and after the rising of this Assembly; and that the secretary immediately publish the same in all the newspapers of the state.

An Act for granting and apportioning a tax of six thousand pounds, in Continental bills of the new emission of this state, to be appropriated to the redeeming one-sixth part of the quota of the new Continental money emitted by this state.

[For act see printed schedule.]

Whereas, Mr. William Langley hath made an application to this Assembly to purchase the lot of land, house, wharf, stores, &c., situate in Newport, which was lately the property of John Bell, and hath been confiscated for the use of this state; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that upon the said William Langley's paying into the general treasury two thousand dollars, in gold and silver, on or before the 10th day of June, A. D. 1781, and also the sum of four hundred dollars, in bills emitted by this state in June, A. D. 1780, without

reckoning any interest thereon, on or before the third day of August next, that then the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to make and execute unto the said William Langley, in behalf of this state, a good warranty deed of the lands and premises aforesaid, conveying the same unto the said William Langley, his heirs and assigns forever, in fee simple; and that the said William Langley receive the rents for the present year, and have possession of the said estate on the 25th day of March next.

It is voted and resolved, that Col. Archibald Crary be, and he is hereby, empowered to give orders upon the purchasing commissary, or any other person in possession of public stores belonging to the state, for such part thereof as may be necessary for the use of the militia now called forth to do duty upon Rhode Island.

It is voted and resolved, that William Taggart, Theodore Foster, Rowse J. Helme, Nathaniel Fales and Thomas Holden, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the deficiencies of the respective towns upon every requisition of the General Assembly for men; that they also make inquiry what towns have accounted for the iron and flour, and monies received by them for the bounties of soldiers; and that they make report to this Assembly as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Daniel Mowry, Jr., and James M. Varnum, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, requested to proceed to Philadelphia, and take their seats in Congress as soon as possible, to represent this state for the ensuing six months; and that the Hon. William Ellery and Ezekiel Cornell, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, requested to proceed to Congress at the expiration of that time, to relieve the first abovenamed gentlemen, and to represent this state for the remaining six months.

Both houses being joined in a grand committee, chose

the following gentlemen members of the council of war, to wit:

His Excellency William Greene, Esq., the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., and Gideon Mumford, Thomas Holden and William Taggart, Esqs.

It is voted and resolved, that the ferriages of the militia, now ordered upon duty, or which shall be ordered out in future, in their going to their respective places of rendezvous or posts, and upon their return when discharged, shall be defrayed by the public; and that the commanding officer of any of the said troops shall give the keeper of the ferry a certificate of the number transported, which certificate this Assembly will cause to be paid.

It is voted and resolved, that Theodore Foster, Esq., and the secretary be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft letters to the Congress, to His Excellency Gen. Washington, to the commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the state of Connecticut; that they inform them of the measures taken by this state for supplying the army, &c.; and request of the said commonwealth and state informations of what hath been done by their respective legislatures for that purpose; and that they report the said letters to His Excellency the Governor, who upon approving them is hereby requested to sign and transmit them as soon as may be.

The following agreement was entered into between this General Assembly and William Rhodes, Esq., to wit:

That he, the said William Rhodes, shall procure and deliver to the commissary general, or his order, or to the proper officers for receiving the same, at such place on the east side of the North River as shall be directed by the persons appointed to receive the same, sixty thousand pounds weight of good merchantable beef, upon the foot, to be reckoned as so much beef for which Congress hath made a requisition upon this state; that one-half part thereof be

delivered on or before the last day of June, A. D. 1781, and the other half on or before the last day of July next; for which the said William Rhodes shall be allowed at the rate of two pounds, seven shillings and six pence, silver money, per hundred weight; that upon the said William Rhodes's producing proper receipts and certificates of the delivery of the beef as aforesaid, he shall be entitled, on the 15th day of August next, to receive payment therefor, in silver money, out of the general treasury; and that if the money, at the time of payment, be not in the general treasury, the said William Rhodes shall be allowed interest therefor until the same be paid.

Whereas, many persons in the towns of Newport, Ports-mouth, Jamestown and Middletown, possessed of large real estates, have refused to pay the taxes assessed upon them, who have not sufficient visible personal estate to satisfy the same; and the collectors in the said towns are not empowered to collect the said taxes from their real estates, whereby great injury accrues to the public:—

It is therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof, that the collectors of taxes in the said towns, in all cases where sufficient personal estate cannot be found, be, and they are hereby, fully empowered to attach and make sale of so much of the real estates of the persons delinquent as aforesaid, and of all persons who shall hereafter refuse or neglect to pay the taxes assessed upon them, as will be sufficient to discharge and satisfy the same; that the said collectors be, and they are hereby, authorized to make and execute to the purchaser or purchasers of such estate or estates, a deed or deeds thereof, conveying all the right, title and interest of the person and persons on whom such taxes are or shall be assessed, and that the purchaser or purchasers shall hold the same accordingly.

Whereas, Christopher Lippitt, Esq., represented unto this Assembly, that a person was detached from the class in

Cranston, of which he was head; that eight thousand dollars, in Continental money of the old emissions, was assessed upon the said class, and paid into his hands before the late great depreciation thereof, where it hath remained ever since; and that in consequence of an act of this Assembly passed at the last session, the said class hath procured another recruit, who hath passed muster, and to whom they have paid three hundred and sixty silver dollars;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the general treasurer receive the said sum of eight thousand dollars of the said Christopher Lippitt, and pay him in lieu thereof two hundred dollars in Continental money of the new emission, to be returned to the said class.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Silas Bates, of the state's three years battalion, bounty 100 silver dollars.	
John Reynolds, agent clothier.....	1,136 0 0
Edward Bennett, who lost his arm in the service.....	45 0 0
Capt. Joshua Pendleton, the pay abstract of his company, on duty in July and August.....	69 10 8
John Demoren, for appraising cattle for the army.....	9 19 8
Metcalf Bowler, for transcribing certain accounts.....	14 18 0
Capt. Samuel Snow, for his wages in Col. Greene's regiment.....	24 0 0
John Carter, for printing.....	12 11 6
Charles Holden, Jr., commissary of purchases, balance.....	339 15 9
Christopher Ellery, for adjusting Charles Holden, Jr.'s accounts.....	8 16 0
Samuel Burr and Benjamin Barton, for services in the militia.....	75 0 0
David Lawrence, for equipping a vessel to go to New York, to effect an exchange of [prisoners].....	37 3 4
Esek Hopkins, for services in settling accounts of Continental battalion..	4 10 0
John Jenckes, for same service.....	10 4 0
William Barker, hire of horses to carry expresses .....	4 2 6
Samuel Butler, for horse hire and service of his son in carrying ex- presses .....	2 16 6
Asa Hopkins, reward for arresting a deserter.....	8 16 0
Capt. Stephen Jenckes, for storing and delivering meal.....	2 17 6
Rowse J. Helme, for services as clerk of the lower house .....	11 14 6
Ezekiel Cornell, for 225 days service as a member of Congress, and ex- pense of horse ride from Newport to Philadelphia.....	\$675 00
Daniel Mowry, on account, in silver money .....	300 00

Adjourned to the second Monday in September, then to meet at East Greenwich.

God save the United States of America.

*General le Compte de Rochambeau to Governor Greene.*

Newport, 27th May, 1781.

Sir:—I have the honor to send to your Excellency, Major Fleury, who has the honor to be acquainted with you. He will deliver into your hands Gen. Washington's letter. You will see by it that he requires you would call immediately five hundred militia men, which he has regulated for relieving the French body at Newport. The Admiral and myself are of opinion that this is a very favorable instant to put our respective forces in motion, and fulfill the scheme determined in the late conference with Gen. Washington.

I trust to your Excellency's discretion, and under the condition of the greatest secrecy, this information. I beg, at the same time, you would give immediate order to collect at Newport, as soon as possible, the five hundred men. Gen. Washington and I would wish their commander to be a man of abilities, firmness and spirit, and such that we could depend upon in all circumstances whatever. I beg your Excellency would send him here as soon as possible, that we could determine and agree.

Your Excellency will, I hope, be persuaded how much I lament the loss of your friend and relation, Col. Greene. I had the greatest esteem and regard for an officer of such merit.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your most obedient and humble servant,

LE COMPTE DE ROCHAMBEAU.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Governor Greene to General le Compte de Rochambeau.*

Warwick, 28th May, 1781.

Sir:—Yours of the 27th instant is now before me, and as the Assembly meets to-day, and will very probably enter upon business on the morrow, put it entirely out of my power to call in the militia during the time they may set; shall therefore embrace the earliest opportunity to lay His Excellency Gen. Washington's and your letters before them when by themselves, and recommend to them to keep the contents thereof as a profound secret; and whatever resolutions they may pass shall be immediately forwarded to you.

I sincerely condole with you for the loss of that brave gentleman you have been so kind as to mention, as also for those who fell with him. But as they were contending in the defence of a cause so just, and of such amazing importance to millions who may reap the benefit of their labors hereafter, flatter myself that the public's loss will be their eternal gain, and therefore think it our duty to submit.

I am, with sincere regard,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

WM. GREENE.

To His Excellency Gen'l de Rochambeau.

*General le Compte de Rochambeau to Governor Greene.*

Newport, 31st May, 1781.

Sir:—I thank your Excellency for the orders you have been pleased to give to the militia, and for your sending Col. Crary, who I doubt not will answer all our expectations.

I am quite ready to move with the French body. Gen. Washington desires it could be as soon as possible. I beg your Excellency to hasten as much as possible the calling and arrival of the militia, and to grant me an order which gives me authority to impress all the wagons that are on Rhode Island, for carrying our baggage as far as Bristol Ferry; and another order, to impress the wagons of farmers between Bristol Ferry and Providence, to carry the same from Bristol Ferry to Providence.

The wagons and horses purchased for the army will be sent to Providence from Connecticut, and then I shall not want any farther assistance.

As it is very important that the motions of the army should not be delayed, I wish that at least two hundred men be arrived here Monday night or Tuesday morning. I will move on Wednesday, with the advance guard.

I have the honor to be, with respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

LE COMPTE DE ROCHAMBEAU.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Governor Greene to General Washington.*

Warwick, June 7th, 1781.

Sir:—The General Assembly of this state, deeply impressed with the absolute necessity of assembling a respectable army in the field, did, in the beginning of the last winter, cheerfully adopt the proper measures for filling up our Continental battalion, agreeable to the arrangement of the army. With unwearied exertions, and at a vast expense, they have proved so far successful that the whole number demanded have been enlisted and mustered, excepting thirty-nine; and such measures are now pursuing that I trust the remainder will be very soon completed.

Sensible, also, that to provide for the clothing and feeding the troops was equally necessary, they have hitherto supplied and sent forward their quota of fresh beef, and have laid up considerable quantities of salted provisions and rum; of the former of which we now have nearly seven hundred barrels, and of the latter about eleven thousand gallons, besides what hath been delivered to the troops who have done duty in the state. They have also provided and sent on a sufficient quantity of summer clothing for the battalion; and have on hand the greatest part of the warm clothing for winter.

[I laid your Excellency's letters of the 18th and 24th of May before the General Assembly, at their session the last week. They entered upon the consideration of them with that seriousness and attention which their importance required.]

They contracted for thirty thousand pounds weight of fresh beef for the month of June, and the same quantity for July, to be delivered on the hoof, at such place or places on the East side of the North River as the proper officers for receiving it shall direct. And the character of the person contracted with is such that the punctual performance of his contract may be securely relied upon.

Although there was a sufficient number of tents in this state for the use of our battalion, procured with money advanced by us, yet the service requiring them for the

southern army, the General Assembly appointed a committee to procure the materials for, and to cause one hundred and twenty tents to be immediately made for our battalion. They will be soon completed and delivered to the assistant quartermaster general in this state.

In consequence of your Excellency's letter of the 24th of May, the General Assembly ordered a regiment of militia to be embodied to do duty on Rhode Island for one month. They are to be rendezvoused there to-morrow, excepting two hundred of them, who, at the request of His Excellency Count de Rochambeau, were ordered upon the island yesterday. I have received information that a considerable part of them have gone on. Col. Archibald Crary, an officer of experience and ability, is appointed to the command of the regiment, and of the posts upon Rhode Island.

\* I will not excite in your Excellency's breast those disagreeable sensations which must arise from a detail of the distresses of this small state. I will only say that it is impossible for us, without the assistance of the neighboring states, to garrison Newport; and I must earnestly request your Excellency to make an early application to the other New England states, for a just and equitable proportion of troops for the defence of that post, which we conceive to be of great consequence to our allies as well as to us.

During the time the enemy were in great strength at Rhode Island, it frequently happened that this state was left in a measure destitute of succors from the neighboring states. At one time there was not a single man from Connecticut nor New Hampshire, and but about one hundred and fifty from Massachusetts. Sometimes all the fencible men in the state, sometimes a third, and at others a fourth part, were called upon duty. The intolerable burthens we then labored under are so recent, and the apprehensions of suffering similar distresses from a like conduct in the neighboring states, are so great, that your Excellency will excuse my being importunate with you to make early requisitions, and in such terms and with such precision, as your Excellency shall think best adapted to procure seasonably the necessary succors.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest esteem, sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

WM. GREENE.

To His Excellency General Washington.

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\* This letter *mutatis mutandis* was addressed to Congress, with the addition of the following paragraph:—

The General Assembly have also ordered a tax of £20,000, lawful silver money, to defray the expenses of the state,—one-half thereof payable on the 1st day of August next, and the other half on the fifth day of October following; and another tax of £6,000 lawful money, being one-sixth part of the Continental money of the new emission of this state, to be paid in the identical bills by the last day of December next, which will be within a year from the time of their emission.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Providence, on Tuesday, July 3d, 1781.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that Rhoda Browning, of Tiverton, with her two children, Esther Milward, of Newport, and Mary Nichols, of Jamestown, with her daughter, and Mrs. Frances Brenton, wife of William Brenton, be, and they are hereby, permitted to proceed to New York, to their connexions, in the first flag of truce that shall go from this state to that place, and to carry with them their wearing apparel, and also such household furniture as Christopher Ellery, Esq., the commissary of prisoners in this state, shall think proper.

Whereas, this state is called upon to, and doth, keep at Rhode Island five hundred men of the militia, for the defence thereof, who are supplied with provisions by this state; and whereas, the monthly supply of fresh provisions required of this state for the use of the army is sixty thousand pounds weight:

It is therefore voted and resolved, that fifty-two thousand pounds weight of fresh beef be sent forward to the grand army monthly, during the time the militia of this state shall be held in actual service; and that the remaining eight thousand pounds weight be appropriated for the use of the militia while in service.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. William Taggart, John Jenckes, Rowse J. Helme, William T. Miller and Moses Lippitt, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to prepare a bill for proportioning upon the towns in this state, a tax or assessment of sixty thousand pounds weight

of beef, exclusive of the hides and tallow, for the months of August and September next, agreeable to the recommendation of the committee from the New England states; and that they proportion the same agreeable to the tax of twenty thousand pounds, silver money, ordered to be assessed by this Assembly at the last session.

An Act altering the time of returning executions issued from the superior and inferior courts.

[For act, see printed Schedule.]

It is voted and resolved that Gideon Mumford, Esq., William Channing, Esq., and Mr. Joseph Brown, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft a letter to Gen. Choisy, in answer to the letter addressed by him to His Excellency the Governor.

Whereas, Major William Perkins, who hath the care of the military stores belonging to the United States in this state, hath represented to this Assembly that Gen. Knox hath directed him to cause a large quantity of military stores to be transported by land from this state; and that the quartermaster is unable to furnish a competent number of teams for that purpose;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Benjamin Bourne, Esq., A. D. Q. M. G. in this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to cause such part of the said stores as cannot be forwarded by land to be transported by water to Hartford, in the state of Connecticut, and there to be delivered to the proper officer; provided nevertheless, that none of the powder be transported by water.

And it is further voted and resolved, that it be recommended to Col. Archibald Crary to furnish a guard for the said stores to be transported by water, from the militia under his command, if a sufficient number will voluntarily enlist for that purpose, who shall be allowed the same

bounty as was allowed to the guards who went with the cannon.

It is voted and resolved, that John Jenckes, Esq., be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to Solomon Southwick, Esq., commissary general of issues in this state, ten barrels of the beef belonging to this state, for the use of the troops now on duty.

Whereas, from the neglect of the collectors in divers towns within this state, the taxes and assessments respectively made and ordered to be collected from said towns, have not been duly and regularly paid into the general treasury, whereby it became necessary that the general treasurer should issue his warrants of distress against the town treasurers of those towns where the collectors had been negligent, several of whom have been committed to gaol, and others have been obliged to raise the monies due from the respective towns without said collectors having duly collected and paid in the amount of the tax or assessment to them delivered to be collected; and thereupon the town treasurers have called special courts upon the collectors and their sureties; and as it is highly equitable and reasonable that the estates of the principals should be first appropriated towards paying off and discharging the judgments which have been or shall be obtained against said negligent collectors and their sureties,—

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that in all executions issuing from any judgment obtained by the town treasurers against the said collectors and their sureties, the words real estate shall be entered in the mandatory part of said executions; that the sheriff or his deputy to whom the said executions shall issue, shall, immediately upon the receipt of such executions, seize and take into possession all the estate, as well real as personal, which he can find in his precinct, belonging or appertaining unto the principal; and that said sheriff or his deputy shall, immediately upon his seizing and attaching the estate of the principal, advertise the same to be sold at public vendue, as well real as personal, within twenty days of the time of his making the seizure or attachment as aforesaid.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that in case of accidents, or extraordinary storms or tempests, by reason whereof few or no purchasers may appear, it shall and may be lawful for the sheriff or his deputy to adjourn the sale of the estates so taken, from one day to the next, and so for three adjournments, and no longer.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that in case any negligent collector or collectors of taxes as aforesaid shall have estates within two counties, the execution or executions shall be directed to the sheriffs and their deputies of the respective counties in which the estates of such negligent collectors are; and their estates may be immediately taken and proceeded against as is in manner before directed.

And it is further enacted, that if the estate, real and personal, of the negligent collector, which shall be sold in manner as aforesaid, shall not be sufficient to discharge the amount of the execution, debt and costs, an alias execution shall be immediately issued against the sureties, for collecting the remainder, which execution shall be returnable within ten days from the date thereof.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that for all real estates sold by virtue of this act, the sheriff shall give a deed to the purchaser or purchasers, in the same manner as deeds are by law ordered to be executed by the sheriffs.

And the secretary is ordered to procure this act to be immediately printed, and to send copies thereof to the several town clerks within this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the following persons be, and they are hereby, appointed to the offices ascribed to their names respectively, to wit:

Joseph Nightingale, captain, John Mathewson, lieutenant, and William Russell, ensign, of the senior class company in the town of Providence.

Simon Whipple, Esq., major of the second regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Coman Smith, captain of the third company of militia in the town of Scituate.

Peter Pearce, captain, and Thomas Wilbur, lieutenant, of the fifth company of militia in the same town.

Isaac Blanchard, ensign of the second company of militia in the same town.

John Wilkinson, surgeon, and John Anthony, surgeon's mate, of the third regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Daniel Sayles, ensign of the first company of militia in the town of Smithfield, in the room of Simon Whipple, promoted.

Humphrey Shearman, captain, Edward Bailey, lieutenant, and Jeremiah Dwelly, ensign, of the third company of militia in the town of Tiverton.

Arnold Bliven, lieutenant of the second company of militia in the town of Westerly, in the room of Joseph Peckham, who declines.

Asa Maxson, lieutenant of the third company of militia in the same town, in the room of Peleg Saunders, who declines, and Samuel Clarke, ensign of the same company.

Joseph Bailey, lieutenant, and Job Gray, ensign, of the first company of militia in the town of Tiverton.

Whereas, Jonathan Arnold, Esq., director of the military hospitals in this state, is called upon for necessaries for the accommodation and comfort of the sick militia now ordered upon duty. To enable him to furnish the same,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Jonathan Arnold

be, and he is hereby, directed to procure such supplies as he shall judge necessary, and empowered to draw upon the general treasurer in favor of the persons who shall furnish the same, to the amount of thirty pounds, silver money, in the whole; which orders shall be received by the general treasurer in payment of the silver money tax assessed at the last session; and that the said Jonathan Arnold be accountable for the amount of the orders so to be drawn.

An Act for proportioning upon the several towns within this state supplies of beef, for the support of the army, for the months of August and September next.

Whereas, it will be impracticable to keep an army in the field, during the present campaign, unless a regular and due supply of fresh beef is furnished them, agreeable to the requisition of the Hon. Continental Congress; and whereas, His Excellency Gen. Washington hath, in the most pressing manner, requested that the supplies required of this state be regularly and monthly sent on to the army; and whereas, the supplies of fresh beef, for the months of August and September, can be procured in the easiest and best manner by proportioning the same unto the respective towns within this state.

[The act printed at length will be found in the Schedule.]

It is voted and resolved, that the town treasurers of the respective towns in this state be, and they are hereby, empowered to receive of Lieut. Oliver Jenckes the depreciation money in his hands, due to the soldiers who have families in their respective towns, which have been supplied by the several towns, or are likely to stand in need of being so supplied.

Whereas, the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., the member for this state of the convention of commissioners from the New England States, who met at Providence, on the 26th day of June last, reported to this Assembly, as the unanimous

opinion of the said commissioners, that five hundred and seventy thousand pounds weight of fresh beef, exclusive of hides and tallow, for the supply of the army in the month of July, be immediately sent forward to camp; that it be furnished by the said states in the following proportions, to wit:

Massachusetts.....	240,000 lbs.
Connecticut .....	210,000 "
New Hampshire.....	90,000 "
Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.....	30,000 "
	—
	570,000 lbs.

That for the supply of the army in the months of August, September, October, November and December, the quantities of fresh beef assigned below to each of the said states, be sent to camp, or to such other place or places as the commander-in-chief or the commissary general shall direct, and be delivered on the particular days in each of the said months undermentioned, to wit:

Massachusetts.....	120,000 on the 1st day.
Connecticut.....	105,000 " 6th "
New Hampshire.....	45,000 " 11th "
Connecticut.....	105,000 " 13th "
Massachusetts.....	120,000 " 19th "
New Hampshire .....	45,000 " 25th "
Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.....	60,000 " 27th "
	—
	600,000

And that the said states send forward, as soon as may be, the salted provisions requested, and the necessary supplies of rum, salt and summer clothing.

Which report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; and that the Assembly will provide the ways and means of procuring this state's proportion of the supplies, agreeable to the said report.

It is voted and resolved, that the several towns in this state which are deficient in the payment of the money already assessed for beef, be allowed twenty days longer time to pay the same; that, upon the payment thereof,

with the interest and costs, within the said time, they be exonerated from the penalty of paying double the sum assessed upon them; that those towns which have already paid in the sums so assessed upon them, with the interest and costs, be excused from the said penalty; and that the town of Middletown, which hath paid the said penalty, have credit therefor in the tax assessed at the last session in silver money.

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriffs of the counties of Kings county and Kent be, and they are hereby, directed to advertise, and sell at public vendue, the stock and personal estates of those persons who have lately broke gaol and fled; and that they sell the same for silver money, and pay the amount of the sales into the general treasury.

Whereas, divers of the town treasurers within this state have been committed to gaol, by reason of the negligence of the collectors of taxes of their respective towns in not duly collecting the taxes; and whereas the said town treasurers have called special courts, and obtained judgments and executions against the said collectors and their sureties, and suggest that they shall be enabled to discharge and pay the demands the general treasurer hath against them, within thirty days; and whereas, their being confined in gaol is very prejudicial to them;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the several town treasurers within this state, who are now confined in gaol, be permitted by the sheriffs of the respective counties to return home. And in case the said demands of the general treasurer against them be not settled and discharged at the expiration of the said thirty days, the respective sheriffs who shall liberate the said town treasurers, are hereby directed and required to take into custody the said town treasurers, and commit them to close gaol, there to remain until they shall pay the same.

And it is further voted and resolved, that a further time of twenty days be allowed unto the respective town treas-

urers to pay the monies for which the general treasurer hath issued warrants of distress against them ; and that, if the same be not paid at the expiration of the said time, the respective sheriff's commit such town treasurers as shall be delinquent to gaol.

And it is further voted and resolved, that a further time of twenty days be allowed to the town of Gloucester, to procure the quota of men assigned the said town for filling up this state's Continental battalion ; that in the meantime the town treasurer of the said town be liberated from gaol ; and that, in case the deficiency of the said town be not made up at the expiration of the said time, the sheriff of the county of Providence commit the said town treasurer to the gaol in the said county.

Whereas, this Assembly, at the last session, did appoint Archibald Crary, Esq., colonel commandant of the post at Rhode Island ; and whereas, Brig. Gen. Choisy hath the command of the French troops on that island, which renders an officer of so high a rank as a colonel commandant to the command of the militia doing duty there unnecessary ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the militia called forth to do duty be commanded by a lieutenant colonel commandant. And this Assembly, being sensible of the good conduct of the said Archibald Crary, during the time he commanded at the said post,—

Do vote and resolve, and it is voted and resolved, that the thanks of this Assembly be, and are hereby, given to the said Archibald Crary, for his services ; and that the secretary immediately transmit a copy of this resolve to the said Archibald Crary.

Whereas, it frequently happens that troops are quartered upon the inhabitants of the town of Providence in undue proportions, which is incident to all populous towns ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that, upon any complaint being made thereof, the members of the General

Assembly for the time being, living in the said town, or any three of them, be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to inquire into the circumstances of the same; and if it shall appear reasonable, to remove the persons quartered, and to provide quarters for them in such other families as can receive them with less inconvenience; and that they direct the quartermaster to remove them accordingly, who is hereby required to carry such orders into execution.

Whereas, William Borden, Esq., collector of taxes for the town of Newport, presented unto this Assembly the following list of the taxes assessed upon the real estates, in Newport, of divers absentees who have joined the enemy, which he hath paid into the general treasury, to wit:

Upon the estate of Walter Chaloner.....	£233 15 0	old Continental money.
Interest upon do. ....	12 0 0	
Upon the same estate.....	5 4 0	silver money.
Interest upon do.....	3 2	
Upon the estate of Lynn Martin.....	46 18 0	old Continental money.
Ditto .....	0 15 0	silver money.
Upon the estate of Isaac Lawton.....	37 10 0	old Continental money.
Ditto .....	0 12 0	silver money.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said taxes be discounted by the general treasurer with the said William Borden, upon his producing the rate bills; and that interest be also allowed, provided he hath paid any interest thereon into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Brig. Gen. Nathan Miller be, and he is hereby, requested and required to cause all the men who are drafted or detached from his brigade to do duty for the month of July instant, to join the regiment upon Rhode Island imminently; that he be requested to continue in his said office during this present year, if no longer, as his resigning the same, at so critical a situation of public affairs, will be attended with bad consequences to the state in general; and that the secretary transmit a copy of this vote to him, by the deputies of the town of Warren.

It is voted and resolved, that of the eight thousand pounds weight of beef reserved for the use of the militia upon duty in this state, out of this state's proportion of the supplies for the army for the present month, and the months of August and September, the county of Newport shall furnish five thousand three hundred and thirty-six pounds weight and one-third, in the proportions and at the times following, to wit:

Newport .....	1,310 pounds on the 29th day of each of the said months.				
Portsmouth .....	682 "	"	25th	"	"
Jamestown .....	227 "	"	30th	"	"
Middletown .....	441 "	"	27th	"	"
Tiverton .....	1,478 "	"	15th	"	"
Little Compton.....	1,197 "	"	20th	"	"

That John Topham, Esq., receive the same, and deliver the beef to the commissary of issues, and that he retain the hides and tallow in his hands for the use of the state.

Provided, nevertheless, that if the militia shall not consume the whole of the said beef, or shall be dismissed, then the remainder be sent to Coventry, to be forwarded to the army.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to sell the confiscated estates be, and they are hereby, directed to sell the confiscated estates in Newport, at public vendue, for silver money, beef or flour; and that they advertise the sale of the same accordingly.

Whereas, Mr. William Hopkins and Benoni Pearce, Esq., brought forward and prosecuted two actions against the general treasurer of this state, at the inferior court which sat at Providence in June last; one upon a certificate issued by the commissary general of purchases, and the other for the redemption of certain bills of public credit of this state, emitted in June, A. D. 1780; and whereas, it is highly inconsistent with the dignity of a free and independent state, that the general treasurer of such state should be sued for a supposed breach of public faith, as nothing but the

necessity of the times would cause the public to deviate from the most punctual performance of all their stipulations;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the judgments obtained upon the said two actions be suspended; and that the executions granted thereon be stayed until the further order of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that the town treasurers of those towns which have paid the wages of the men enlisted for six months, in Col. Greene's regiment, be empowered to endorse the certificates for the wages of the men so paid; and that the general treasurer receive such certificates, so endorsed, in the same manner as if they were endorsed by the soldiers in whose favor they are given.

Whereas, five hundred men are ordered into service by this General Assembly, to do duty in this state; and it is necessary that measures should be taken for supplying them with bread for their subsistence;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the persons hereinafter named, in the several towns within this state, be, and they are hereby, ordered to deliver, at the places herein-after named, the number of bushels of corn or rye set against their several towns, on or before the 16th day of July instant, to wit:

	Bushels.		Bushels.
Newport .....	20	Little Compton .....	12
Portsmouth .....	7	Providence .....	29
Middletown .....	4	Smithfield .....	27
Jamestown .....	2	Scituate .....	25
Tiverton .....	15	Glocester .....	21
Cumberland .....	12	Hopkinton .....	12
Cranston .....	17	Bristol .....	9
Johnston .....	9	Warren .....	5
North Providence .....	6	Barrington .....	4
Westerly .....	13	Warwick .....	23
North Kingstown .....	20	East Greenwich .....	11
South Kingstown .....	40	West Greenwich .....	10
Charlestown .....	11	Coventry .....	14
Richmond .....	9		—
Exeter .....	13		400

It is further voted and resolved, that the following persons be, and they are hereby, appointed to purchase the said corn and rye for their respective towns, to wit:

Newport, Christopher Ellery, Esq.; Providence, James Arnold, Esq.; Portsmouth, Thomas Shearman, Esq.; Warwick, Charles Holden, Esq.; Westerly, Edward Saunders, Esq.; North Kingstown, Mr. Eber Shearman; South Kingstown, Mr. George Babcock; East Greenwich, Archibald Crary, Esq.; Jamestown, Mr. John Weeden; Smithfield, Mr. William Waterman; Scituate, Mr. John Williams; Gloucester, Moses Cooper, Esq.; Charlestown, Gideon Hoxsie, Esq.; West Greenwich, George Dyre, Esq.; Coventry, Thomas Mathewson, Esq.; Exeter, Pardon Tillinghast, Esq.; Middletown, Mr. Nicholas Easton; Bristol, Shearjashub Bourne, Esq.; Tiverton, John Cooke, Esq.; Little Compton, Mr. Zebedee Greenell; Warren, Mr. John Child; Cumberland, Jotham Carpenter, Esq.; Richmond, Robert Stanton, Esq.; Cranston, Mr. Peter Burlingame; Hopkinton, Mr. Benjamin Maxson; Johnston, Mr. Job Waterman; North Providence, Mr. Edward Smith; Barrington, Mr. Thomas Allen.

It is further voted and resolved, that the persons appointed to purchase the corn or rye, take receipts upon the delivery thereof; that the persons appointed to receive the same deliver it to the order of the said commissary general, also taking receipts therefor; and that the said receipts be produced to this Assembly at the next session, that the quantity delivered may be ascertained.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the several towns in this state be, and they are hereby, directed immediately to advance, to the persons appointed to purchase the said corn or rye in their respective towns, money sufficient to purchase the same.

Whereas, this state did lease unto Mr. Samuel Carr, a certain farm lying in Exeter, which, at the superior court of judicature, held at South Kingstown, in April last, was ad-

judged to be the property of the proprietors of the Petquamscut purchase ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the general treasurer of this state assign the said lease to, and for the use of, the said proprietors, that they may receive and apply the rents agreeable to the intent of the original donation.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Brown and Welcome Arnold, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to write to the most Honorable the Continental Congress, in answer to a letter from the President, enclosing a resolve of the 22d day of May last.

This Assembly, taking into consideration a resolve of Congress, empowering and recommending to the legislatures of the several states to suspend all officers they shall deem unnecessary, and the necessity of retrenching as much as possible the public expenses; and also the report of the committees appointed to examine the books of the commissary general of issues in this state; that Caleb Gardner, Esq., commissary of hides and tallow in this state, Benjamin Stelle, Esq., deputy paymaster general in this state, and Major Daniel Box, have drawn provisions from the public stores in the month of June last; and that, in the opinion of the said committee, more persons are employed in the said commissary general's department than are necessary;—

Do vote and resolve, and it is voted and resolved, that no rations of provisions or wood be delivered after this day to the said Caleb Gardner, Benjamin Stelle, and Daniel Box, the offices of the said Caleb Gardner and Benjamin Stelle having become vacant by the removal of the Continental army from this state; and this Assembly having heretofore made provision for compensating the former services of the said Daniel Box.

And it is further voted and resolved, that until the further orders of this Assembly, the said commissary general of issues be allowed to employ, in this state, at the public ex-

pense, only one assistant commissary of issues, two clerks, and two other persons, each of whom is to act as cooper and scale-man; and that the secretary immediately transmit copies of these resolutions to the said commissary general of issues, and to Benjamin Bourne, Esq., A. D. Q. M. G.

Whereas, divers persons living without the limits of this state, are proprietors of uncultivated lands, and it is very inconvenient to the collectors to advertise, in one of the Boston newspapers, the taxes assessed upon such estates; and that, in case of neglect of payment, so much of the said lands will be sold as will be sufficient to pay such taxes and costs, which mode of notifying the proprietors is prescribed by the laws now in force;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the collectors advertise the sale of such lands, for the payment of the taxes and costs, in one of the newspapers published in this state, instead of one of the Boston newspapers.

It is voted and resolved, that Gideon Hoxsie, Jonathan J. Hazard, and Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed, at the request and with the consent of Mr. William Hopkins, a committee to appraise and set off to the said William Hopkins, one or both of the lots of land lying in Point Judith, in South Kingstown, which were late the property of John Borland, Esq., if the said William Hopkins hath, or can within a reasonable time procure, the certificates given by the commissary of purchasers, to pay for the same; that they view the said lots, and appraise them at their real value; and that, upon the said William Hopkins paying into the general treasury the amount of the said appraisement in the said certificates, or in gold or silver, the general treasurer give a deed of the said lands to the said William Hopkins.

It is voted and resolved, that the draft of a letter to Gen. Choisy, now before this Assembly, be approved; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to cause a fair

copy to be made thereof, and sign and transmit the same to Gen. Choisy.\*

Whereas, the council of war, on the 16th day of June last, did pass a resolve for relieving the militia of this state; and on the 26th of the same month did pass another resolve for preventing future delinquency; and since the passing the said resolves, an alteration hath been made in the commandant of the militia at Rhode Island; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said resolves of the 16th and 26th of June be approved, with this alteration:—that return of the officers appointed, and men drafted, be made to the lieutenant colonel commandant at Newport, who shall take the place of Col. Archibald Crary, and who is hereby empowered and directed to cause all the orders and resolutions of the said council of war to be carried into execution, excepting that the clause directing delinquents to be sent forward to do duty in the Continental army be repealed.

\* *General Choisy to Governor Greene.*

Newport, 2d July, 1781

Sir:—I have the honor to inform your Excellency that by the last flag which arrived from New York, there came in her, boxes directed to Count Viomeric and Major Capellis, containing goods both for them as well as for other officers in the army.

As all these goods have been seized by Mr. Elliott, as a contravention against the laws of the province, and the states who assemble to-morrow at Providence are to judge if these goods are to be confiscated or not, the officers concerned in it have required me to beg satisfaction of you: and as I am persuaded that your Excellency, as well as the whole Assembly, are too well inclined towards the nation in alliance with America for doing anything disagreeable to them, I shall take the liberty of making some observations which naturally occur.

1. It is impossible to suppose that any French officer should carry on an illicit correspondence with the enemies of America. 'Tis likewise impossible that any one should send for goods from New York, in order to trade with them. A part of these, as, for instance, the whole quantity of tea and paper, are for the use of some officers of the navy and land troops; as for gauze, ribbons, caps and other things for the ladies, these are presents that the French gallantry admits of; and I think the Assembly will find that these tokens of remembrance and gratitude can not be a crime against the state.

2. These goods, being directed to distinguished officers in the army, cannot be confiscated without their being offended thereby; and the care which all the French officers have taken of not displeasing any American, gives them room to think that the Americans, on their side, will avoid everything which might cause them any uneasiness.

3. We have advice that a letter was directed to Mr. Capellis which has not been delivered. He is, according to his office, in a capacity of receiving letters, not only from the enemies, but even from the friends of the state hid in the bosom of New York. Your Excellency must be sensible of the consequences the interception of such an essential correspondence may have, and of the impossibility to allow any one, whoever he may be, to open or to keep back such letters.

And in lieu of the said penalty, it is further voted and resolved, that each and every person drafted or detached to do military duty, pursuant to the act of this Assembly, passed at the last session, or the said resolves of the council of war, who, after due notice, hath refused or neglected, or shall refuse or neglect, to appear and do said duty as required by the said act of Assembly or resolves of the said council of war, shall forfeit and pay, as a fine, the sum of nine pounds, silver money, to be collected as other military fines and forfeitures are by law directed to be collected; that if any person, delinquent as aforesaid, shall not have sufficient estate to pay and discharge the said fine, he shall be sent to Rhode Island, there to do military duty for the space of two months, in the same manner as enlisted soldiers; that the said fines be paid into the treasury of the towns to which such delinquents respectively belong, to be appropriated by the town council of such towns for hiring men to supply the places of such delinquents; and that

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I beg your Excellency's pardon for making observations which certainly you would have made without me. I am persuaded the Assembly will find them likewise just, and order that the goods may be restored to those whom they are directed. Though I ask nothing but what is just, yet I shall not be less obliged to you; and the officers concerned in the restitution of these goods will be as thankful as myself.

I have the honor to be your Excellency's most humble and obedient servant,  
CHOISY.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Governor Greene to General Choisy.*

July 7th, 1781.

Your letter of the 2d I have laid before the General Assembly, and your request respecting the goods taken by Col. Elliot has been considered by them. The laws upon which the goods have been seized, were passed in consequence of the pressing solicitations of Gen. Washington and le Compte de Rochambeau, to prevent an intercourse with the enemy, which had been attended with the most injurious consequences to the states; and the Assembly are of opinion that a relaxation at this time may induce persons inimical to countenance that intercourse, and tend to frustrate the good intentions of His Excellency and the Count. Previous to the receipt of your letter, an application had been made to the Council, by private persons, subjects of this state, claiming the goods, and requesting their delivery for sale, which was not granted, being incompatible with the laws upon which they had been seized. From this state of facts, the Assembly are persuaded that the Count Viomeriel, and the officers to whom the goods were directed, will justify a determination of a court of law, upon a seizure of them, made in conformity as may have been sent for to the laws of this state.

The Assembly have ordered an inquiry respecting the detention of a letter directed to Major Capellis, and will take the necessary measures for preventing any interruption in a correspondence so necessary and beneficial.

To General Choisy

I have, &c.,

WILLIAM GREENE.

arms and accoutrements for such delinquent be furnished from the company to which he shall belong, for which such delinquent shall be accountable.

It is voted and resolved, that upon application being made to this Assembly by any person or persons possessed of the bills of public credit, emitted by this state in June, A. D. 1780, to the amount of three hundred pounds, or upwards, this Assembly will mutually agree with such person or persons in appointing a committee to appraise and set off to him or them so much of the lands upon which the said money is funded, as will be sufficient to redeem the said bills; that the general treasurer shall execute a deed thereof to the person or persons possessed of the said bills, vesting in them a good and indefeasable estate, in order to redeem the same; and that this resolve be published in the newspapers of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that John Jenckes, Esq., be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver to Solomon Southwick, Esq., commissary general of issues in this state, or to his order, all the salted beef belonging to this state in his care, as he shall call for the same, for the use of the militia doing duty upon Rhode Island.

It is voted and resolved, that when arms or accoutrements shall be impressed for such poor persons drafted from the militia to do duty, as, in the opinion of the town council, are unable to furnish themselves, the officer under whose direction such draft shall be made, shall impress the necessary arms and accoutrements from the company only to which such poor persons belong.

It is voted and resolved, that Major William Perkins, who hath the care of the military stores in this state belonging to the continent, be, and he is hereby, directed to furnish the vessels taken up by Benj. Bourne, Esq., A. D. Q. M. G., to transport military stores, with small cannon and the necessary ammunition, for their defence on their passage to Hartford.

Whereas, it appears probable to this Assembly, from the examination of Joshua Hubbart and John Paine, who are now confined in the gaol in the county of Providence, and otherwise, that they have been concerned in an illicit trade and correspondence with the enemies of the United States; and the public safety requires that they should remain confined until liberated by due course of law;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that neither of the said persons be bailed until the next term of the superior court, to be holden at Providence; that the said John Paine be removed to the gaol in Newport, there to be confined; that one of the justices of the superior court issue a warrant accordingly; and that the sheriff of the said county of Providence take into possession all the estate and effects of the said Joshua Hubbart and John Paine.

Provided, nevertheless, that if the governor, or the executive authority of the state of Connecticut, shall send for the said Joshua Hubbart and John Paine, or either of them, one of the justices of the superior court shall issue his warrant for the delivery of the said persons, or either of them, to the order of the said governor, or executive authority.

It is voted and resolved, that Theodore Foster, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to draft a letter to His Excellency General Washington; and if His Excellency the Governor shall approve thereof, he is requested to sign the same, and to enclose therein a copy of the examinations of Joshua Hubbart, now a prisoner in the gaol in the county of Providence.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Moses Lippitt be, and he is hereby, appointed one of the committee for re-surveying certain confiscated estates, in the room of Mr. Matthew Manchester, whose business hath called him out of the state.

It is voted and resolved, that the commissary general of issues be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver one ration only in provision to any of the persons now employed in

the public service, who are not actually in the field, and to those of them only who shall have orders therefor from the commanding officer at the post; that he do not deliver any provisions for due-bills given to any persons out of this state, nor to any person within this state, if the persons who are possessed of such due-bills have drawn one ration; and that he do not for the future give any due-bills for back rations.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	<i>L s. d.</i>
Samuel Ward, service and expenses in procuring enlistments .....	10 10 0
Esek Hopkins, for six cords of wood.....	5 8 0
Jabez Bowen, for his services as a member of the New England Convention of Commissioners.....	2 5 0
Henry Barber, for printing acts of Assembly.....	10 10 0
John Russell, for packing beef.....	6 18 9
Mrs. Rogers, for boarding and nursing a sick soldier in Col. Greene's regiment .....	3 15 0
John Hoppin, for the support of soldiers, who were deserters.....	7 4 9
" " for the support of divers prisoners.....	22 11 2
David Maxson, for board of a sick soldier.....	7 0 0
David Lawrence, for bread for the use of troops.....	12 12 0
Joseph Field, for re-packing beef.....	14 2 0
Preserved Pearce, for attendance on the General Assembly .....	14 8 0
Benjamin Bourne, Q. M. G., for the use of his department .....	200 0 0
Oliver Jenckes, for apprehending three deserters.....	18 0 0
William Rhodes, for carrying beef to the army .....	100 0 0

God save the United States of America.

*Governor Greene to General Washington.*

Warwick, 11th July, 1781

Sir:—I was yesterday honored with your Excellency's favor of the 1st instant, and am sorry to find that my letter had not come to your knowledge.

Soon after the sitting of the Assembly, which convened the last of May, and considered your requisitions delivered to me by Gen. Heath, I wrote you the contents of their resolutions.

You have been rightly informed respecting the beef, and I cannot account for its not having been delivered on the 1st instant; but care is now taken to enquire into this matter, and I make no doubt, if it is not already delivered, it will go on as speedily as possible.

At the convention held in Providence, the 25th of last month, it was agreed that this state should furnish thirty thousand weight of beef, for the month of July, and sixty thousand pounds a month for August and September; since which, the Assembly has ordered fifty-two thousand pounds, to be delivered at the grand army on the 27th of August, and the same quantity on the 27th of September; and eight thousand pounds far each of those months to be retained for the use of the militia doing duty on Rhode Island, unless they should be relieved; in that case, the whole quantity is to be sent to the army. The quantities agreed upon for August and September is far beyond this state's proportion of that article, when compared with what is furnished by the other New England states, and nothing but necessity induced them to furnish so large a quantity. That I flatter myself those extraordinary exertions will not in future be considered as a precedent. There is also five thousand gallons of rum ordered forward to the army, which has been delivered to the assistant quartermaster, with a considerable sum of money, to forward that, as also the heavy cannon and necessary horses.

With the greatest respect and esteem, I am

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

WM. GREENE.

To His Excellency General Washington.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Newport, on the third Monday in August, 1781.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that the conduct of His Excellency the Governor, in directing Benjamin Bourne, Esq., A. D. Q. M. G., to hire or impress a vessel, and to send forward, to the orders of His Excellency General Washington, thirty hogsheads of rum, and all the salted provisions belonging to this state, excepting twenty barrels, be, and the same is hereby, approved; and the said Benjamin Bourne is directed to proceed accordingly.

Whereas, Mr. Josiah Potter, of Cranston, mariner, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that in the year 1776 he was taken by the enemy, and carried to Antigua; and, in order to relieve himself from confine-

ment and distress, he entered into the enemy's merchant service, where he continued, without having any opportunity of getting home, (although it was constantly his design,) until the third day of this month, when he was captured by Capt. John B. Hopkins, and brought into Newport, where he is now imprisoned; whereupon he prayed this Assembly to set him at liberty, and restore him to his native county and friends; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, granted; and that, upon the said Josiah Potter's taking an oath of allegiance and fidelity to this state, he be, and hereby is, declared to be entitled to all the privileges and immunities he would have been entitled to if he had never been in the British service.

Whereas, His Excellency the Count de Barras, commander-in-chief of His Most Christian Majesty's fleet in the harbor of Newport, hath represented unto this Assembly that the houses, wharves, stores and land which did late belong to Joseph Wanton and George Rome, situate upon Easton's Point, in Newport, are of consequence to him, for the reception of the naval stores, &c., belonging to the fleet, and requested that the same may not be sold, agreeable to the former orders of this Assembly; and this Assembly, being very desirous of giving every aid, assistance and convenience to the fleets and armies of His Most Christian Majesty,—

Do vote and resolve, and it is voted and resolved, that the sale of the houses, wharves, stores and land, which did late belong to the said Joseph Wanton and George Rome, situate upon Easton's Point, in Newport, be postponed; and that the committee appointed for the purpose of selling and disposing of confiscated estates do not proceed to dispose of the premises aforesaid, until the further orders of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Brig. Gen. Nathan Miller

be, and he is hereby appointed to proceed to New York, in a flag of truce, to exchange the inhabitants of this state now in captivity; that he endeavor to establish a regular mode for the future exchanging prisoners with the commissary of prisoners there; that the commissary of prisoners in this state provide a suitable vessel for the said Nathan Miller to proceed on the said business; that the commissary of issues deliver to the said commissary of prisoners one barrel of flour and two barrels of beef, for that purpose; that the said flag go under the direction of His Excellency the Governor, who is requested to furnish the necessary papers and instructions; and that the expense of the said flag be paid by this state.

Whereas, Mr. Amos Reynolds, of West Greenwich, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that he was apprehended and committed to the gaol in the county of Kent, under a suspicion of burning the barn of Othniel Gorton, Esq., from whence he unadvisedly made his escape; whereupon, by an order of this Assembly, his estate, both real and personal, was seized, and the personal estate ordered to be sold; and that, previous to the order for selling his personal estate, he voluntarily surrendered himself up to the sheriff of the said county, and recognized for his appearance at the superior court, to take his trial, &c. And thereupon prayed this Assembly to order the said sheriff not to sell his personal estate until after the said trial shall be had, and that then the said estate, as also his real estate, be released and discharged, or held so far as shall be ordered and adjudged by the said court. And the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, granted.

It is voted and resolved, that all persons who have demands against this state for stock driven off the island of Rhode Island, by the direction of the General Assembly, at the time the enemy took possession of the said island, de-

posit their respective claims in the hands of William Taggart, Esq., with a description of their cattle, and such proofs as they can produce, who is hereby appointed to receive and lay the same before this Assembly.

Whereas, a small quantity of goods were lately brought in a flag of truce from New York, commanded by Captain Nathaniel Briggs, which were designed for the payment of some debts, and small presents sent to the families of persons within this state, which goods were seized and libelled before the inferior court, &c., for the county of Newport; and whereas, it appears that the said goods were not intended for merchandize, but merely as payment of debts and presents;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the goods aforesaid be, and the same are hereby, released; that they be restored to the several persons to whom they were directed, the claimants of the same paying what costs have already arisen; that this release be not in future brought into precedent for importing or bringing any goods into this state, as presents, from within the enemy's lines; and that the said inferior court order the sheriff to deliver the said goods accordingly.

Whereas, this Assembly did heretofore order and direct the sheriff of the county of Kent to seize and sell at public vendue, all the personal estate which he could find, belonging to the persons who broke gaol in the said county and elsewhere, who were confined on suspicion of arson and other high crimes; and whereas, some of the persons who broke gaol and fled, have left families who are distressed;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kent leave with the families who are in absolute need thereof, such articles of household furniture as he shall think are really necessary for their support, taking proper securities to return the articles whenever called for, and that he sell the remainder agreeable to the orders of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to sell the confiscated estates, lying upon Rhode Island, dispose of them for gold or silver only.

It is voted and resolved, that the towns which have been delinquent in sending in the corn and rye, for the use of the militia doing duty on Rhode Island, agreeable to the requisitions of this Assembly and council of war, either deliver said corn and rye at the posts and places required, or pay, in lieu thereof, within ten days after the rising of this Assembly, one silver dollar for each and every bushel of corn and rye assessed upon the said towns respectively, into the hands of William Taggart, Esq., to be appropriated and laid out in the purchase of flour, for the use of the militia doing duty as aforesaid; and that he account for the same.

Whereas, this Assembly did heretofore order and direct that John Payne, Jr., a person suspected of carrying on an illicit trade with the enemy, should be committed to the gaol in Newport, for examination and trial, if sufficient proof should appear against him; and whereas, the crime of which he is suspected is bailable;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the judges of the superior court, or either of them, examine into the evidence against the said John Payne, and with the advice of the attorney general of this state, either bail or discharge him, as the evidence shall appear.

Whereas, Mr. John Demount exhibited unto this Assembly an account by him charged against the state, for fresh beef supplied the troops doing duty within this state; and the said account being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the balance due thereon, of thirty pounds, nineteen shillings and ten pence, silver money, be paid the said John Demount by the town of Providence; and that the sum aforesaid be deducted from the next proportion of beef to be assessed upon the said town.

Whereas, the freemen of the town of Scituate preferred a

petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that the said town is very extensive, and inconvenient for transacting public business, it being near twelve miles in length and eight miles and an half in breadth; that many of the free-men live twelve miles from any convenient place for doing public business, and that other disadvantages attend its present situation; and the same being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted; and that Theodore Foster, Henry Marchant and Caleb Fisk, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft a bill accordingly.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that the collectors of taxes in some of the towns within this state, have been obliged to advance considerable sums of their own money, to discharge the taxes for Continental money, committed to them to collect, in consequence of the delinquency of individuals within their respective towns; and that since the advancing of the said sums, the Continental money hath greatly depreciated; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the collectors aforesaid be, and they are hereby, empowered to demand and receive of the persons delinquent the value of the sums by them advanced for the use of such delinquents, in gold or silver, agreeable to the scale of depreciation, to be computed from the date of the last receipt each collector received from the general treasurer.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if any dispute shall arise between any collector of taxes and the individuals who are deficient, by reason that the collector had not properly applied for the taxes, the collector shall make oath before either of the justices of the superior court, or any justice of the inferior court, in the county where he resides, that he did make proper application to them for the taxes; that the individuals who are deficient shall be cited to appear, if they shall think fit, at the making such oath; and that the collector shall further make oath that he hath ad-

vanced his own money, and hath not applied any money he hath collected for taxes, to discharge the tax of any individual from whom he shall demand depreciation; and in case the collectors shall not make oath as aforesaid, they shall have no remedy for the depreciation aforesaid.

Whereas, Mr. Francis Malbone, of Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that his daughter, Elizabeth Breese, the wife of Major John Breese, now at New York, hath lately been requested by her said husband to apply for permission to come to him at New York; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to permit him to proceed to New York, in a vessel, at his own expense, to carry his said daughter and her infant child; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, granted; and that a flag, under the particular attention of His Excellency the Governor, be granted at such time as he may think proper.

An Act for dividing the town of Scituate, and incorporating the west end thereof into a township, to be distinguished and known by the name of Foster.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the town of Scituate be, and the same is hereby, divided into two distinct and separate towns; that the dividing line between the two towns shall be run and ascertained in the following manner, to wit:—By accurately measuring the dividing line between the towns of Coventry and Scituate, and fixing and establishing a boundary in the middle thereof, and from thence running north, parallel with the seven mile line, until it comes to the dividing line between Scituate and Gloucester, in such manner as to divide the present town of Scituate into two towns of equal extent and dimensions, as nearly as may be; that all the lands to the westward of the said dividing line last mentioned, between Coventry and Gloucester, and extending to Connecticut line, be, and the same are hereby, erected and incorporated into a township, to be distinguished and known by the name of Foster; that the inhabitants thereof shall choose two deputies to represent them in General Assembly, and shall have, hold and enjoy, all and singular, the liberties, privileges and immunities, which the other towns in this state enjoy and are entitled to; and that such part of the said town of Scituate as lieth to the eastward of said dividing line shall still remain a town, retaining its former name of Scituate.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all debts due, and monies belonging to the said town of Scituate, before the division thereof by this act made, shall be divided between the said towns, according to the last tax assessed in the said town of Scituate; that all debts due from the said town of Scituate shall be settled in like manner; and that the poor be divided between the said two towns in proportion to the taxes and debts.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee for selling the confiscated estates do not proceed to sell any more of the said estates until the further orders of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Lieut. Col. Thomas Tillinghast be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to impress, upon the island of Rhode Island, thirty good muskets, for the use of the militia under his command.

It is voted and resolved, that Archibald Crary, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to receive all the clothing in the hands of John Reynolds, Esq., late agent clothier, belonging to this state; and that he carefully pack the same up, and have the care thereof until called for by this state.

Whereas, John Jenckes, William Richmond and Theodore Foster, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly a state of the account of William Ellery, Esq., a delegate in Congress, and their report thereon, as follows, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly relative to the account of William Ellery.*

We, the subscribers, having been appointed by the Honorable the General Assembly a committee to audit the account of William Ellery, Esq., a delegate for this state in Congress, beg leave to report, that we have carefully examined the said account, and find that the said William Ellery hath received, from time to time, in the paper currency, seventy-five thousand eight hundred and thirty-five dollars, which is equal to five hundred and thirty-nine pounds, two shillings and four pence silver money, as ascertained by the scale of depreciation; that, agreeable to the said account, the said William Ellery served as a delegate five hundred and three days, for which he is allowed thirty shillings, silver money, per day, agreeable to a vote of this Assembly, in full payment for all services and expenses of himself, servant and horse hire; and that there remains a balance due from this state unto the said William Ellery, of two hundred and fifteen pounds, seven shillings and eight pence, silver money.

JOHN JENCKES, THEODORE FOSTER,  
WILLIAM RICHMOND, Committee.

Newport, August 25, 1781.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; and that the balance found due, of two hundred and fifteen pounds, seven shillings and eight pence, silver money, be allowed and paid the said William Ellery out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Benjamin Bourne, Esq., A. D. Q. M. G., with the advice and assistance of Jonathan Arnold, Esq., provide good and suitable quarters for the French officers and surgeons belonging to the army stationed in Providence.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., John Cooke, Esq., Mr. Caleb Gardner, Esek Hopkins, Esq., Mr. Joseph Brown, Joseph Stanton and Thos. Holden, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to confer with Lieut. Col. Thomas Tillinghast, on the best measures to be taken for the defence of Rhode Island ; and that they report to this Assembly as soon as may be.

Whereas, divers petitions and complaints have been exhibited unto this Assembly, by a number of persons from the different parts of this state, setting forth and complaining that they have been returned as delinquents, for not doing military duty, when they have been excused by law, or rendered incapable of serving as soldiers by sickness or other providential causes, whereby they have been classed as delinquents, and large sums of money assessed upon them without cause ; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the committees appointed to class the male inhabitants within the several towns of this state, be, and they are hereby, fully empowered, authorized and directed, to hear and examine all complaints which shall be exhibited to them, from the persons who have been returned and classed as delinquents ; and upon due examination into the cases and circumstances of such complaining delinquents, if it shall appear to them, or the major part of such committee, that the person so returned as a delinquent was excused by law, or rendered incapable of serving as a soldier by sickness or other providential events, or by any other excusable cause, that then, and in that case, the person or persons returned as delinquents as aforesaid shall receive from such committee a certificate, certifying that they have examined his or their case, and that he or they were

returned as delinquents without cause ; and thereupon the said person or persons, who shall obtain such certificates, shall be paid out of the town treasury of such town where he or they were classed as delinquents, all sums of money which he or they have paid for delinquency, when in fact no such delinquency happened.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the sale of all goods or effects, taken by the sheriffs or collectors for delinquency, be postponed for ten days from the rising of this Assembly, in order that an examination into the matter may be had and made by said committees, who are hereby required, upon application being made unto them, forthwith to proceed upon said business.

Whereas, Thomas Wickham, of Newport, now confined in the gaol at Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that at the superior court, held at Newport aforesaid, in November last, he was, by a prosecution had against him by the attorney general, sentenced to six months imprisonment, and to pay a fine of five thousand silver dollars ; and that he hath been imprisoned upwards of nine months, and is utterly incapable of paying the said fine ; and thereupon he prayed this Assembly to remit the said fine, and restore him to the privileges of a free born subject ; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that upon the said Thomas Wickham's paying into the hands of the attorney general the sum of five hundred silver dollars, to and for the use of this state, and giving bonds, with surety, for his good behavior during the present war, he be liberated from gaol, and exonerated from the fine laid upon him by the superior court ; and that the said Thomas Wickham remain confined in the gaol at Newport, and there be closely kept until he shall pay the said five hundred dollars, with costs of court, and give bonds as aforesaid.

Whereas, abstracts of the wages due to the militia, senior class, and chartered or independent companies, for their ser-

vices while under the command of Col. Archibald Crary, in the months of June and July last, have been duly examined and certified according to law, and now laid before this Assembly for payment ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Thomas Rumreill, Esq., auditor of accounts, receive the said abstracts ; that he make out certificates therefrom of the wages due to each particular person, and transmit the same to the town treasurers of the towns to which such persons respectively belong ; that the town treasurers deliver the same to the persons to whom they are due ; that the said certificates shall and may be received by the collectors and general treasurer in payment of the state tax now collecting, to be paid on the 1st day of October next ; and that upon an abstract being returned to the said Archibald Crary, of those of the captain general's cavaliers who were upon duty at the abovementioned time, and his certifying the same to be right, the said Thomas Rumreill give certificates for them, in the same manner as for those who have been returned in the abovementioned abstracts.

Whereas, Mr. Robert Lawton, of Newport, represented unto this Assembly, that during the time the British troops had possession of Rhode Island, and garrisoned the same, his sloop was employed as a cartel vessel, in order to remove the families and effects of divers of the inhabitants of the town of Newport ; that during the time she was employed in the service aforesaid, she was driven on shore at Warwick Neck, and there remained ; that Robert Carr, Curtis Cole, Caleb Carr and Benajah Cole, of Bristol county, stripped said vessel of her sails, rigging, cables, hawser, anchors and other effects, and have likewise cut and destroyed the said vessel for the iron ; and the said Robert Carr, Curtis Cole, Caleb Carr and Benajah Cole, being by order of this Assembly cited to appear at this session of Assembly, to answer for the same, and they having neglected to appear, agreeable to the said citation,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Welcome Arnold, Esek Hopkins and Charles Keen, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to examine into the matter aforesaid; that they be fully empowered, authorized and directed, to call the aforesigned persons before them, and to estimate, adjudge and value the damages the said Robert Lawton hath received in his said vessel, and to make inquiry whether the said persons charged are guilty thereof or not, and that they report their doings to the next session of this Assembly.

Whereas, the Rev. James Manning, president of the college in this state, hath represented unto this Assembly, that a gentleman within the enemy's lines, in the state of New York, hath in his possession considerable property coming unto him, and that to obtain the same it is necessary he should go within said lines; and thereupon requested permission accordingly;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to write to His Excellency Gen. Washington, recommending to him to permit the said James Manning to go within the said lines, for the purpose of transacting the aforesaid business, and obtaining the said property.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that the judgment obtained by William Manchester, of Coventry, against Thomas Manchester, of West Greenwich, at the term of the superior court held in the county of Kent, in April last, was for the proper monies of Gervas Elam, late deceased, whose estate is in possession of this state; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said William Manchester be cited to appear at the next session of this Assembly, to shew cause, if any he hath, why he should not pay the same into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., John I. Clark, Esek Hopkins and Rouse J. Helme, Esqs., be,

and they are hereby, appointed a committee to take into consideration the several letters from Robert Morris, Esq., superintendent of finance; to state a general account of the advances made by this state upon Continental account, and to report upon the said several letters; that they lay the same before His Excellency the Governor; and that His Excellency be requested to write to the said Robert Morris upon the subject, informing him how far this Assembly hath proceeded with respect to his requisition.

Whereas, it is necessary that measures should be taken for supplying the militia now doing duty, with bread for their subsistence; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the persons hereafter named, in the several towns within this state, be, and they are hereby, ordered to deliver, at the places hereinafter named, the number of bushels of corn or rye set against their several towns, on or before the 8th day of September next; and the same number of bushels, and at the same places, on or before the 8th day of each of the months of October and November next, to wit:

	Bushels.		Bushels.
Newport .....	20	North Kingstown.....	20
Portsmouth .....	7	South Kingstown.....	40
Middletown .....	4	Charlestown .....	11
Jamestown .....	2	Richmond .....	9
Tiverton .....	15	Exeter .....	13
Little Compton.....	12	Hopkinton .....	12
Providence .....	29	Bristol .....	9
Smithfield .....	27	Warren .....	5
Scituate .....	25	Barrington .....	4
Glocester .....	21	Warwick .....	28
Cranston .....	17	East Greenwich.....	11
Cumberland .....	12	West Greenwich .....	10
Johnston .....	9	Coventry .....	14
North Providence.....	6		
Westerly .....	13		400

And it is further voted and resolved, that the towns in Kings county be directed to deliver the corn or rye by them purchased as aforesaid, to Mr. Thomas Bissell, or Mr.

Benjamin Davis, in North Kingstown, or to the commissary of issues; that those in the county of Providence deliver the corn or rye to the issuing commissary at Providence; those in the county of Kent, to Mr. Christopher Greene, at his mills at Potowomut; and those of the county of Bristol, of the towns of Tiverton and Little Compton, and of the towns on the islands, to the commissary at Newport.

It is further voted and resolved, that the persons appointed to purchase the corn or rye, take receipts for the same on the delivery thereof; that the persons appointed to receive the corn or rye deliver the same to the orders of the issuing commissary, taking receipts therefor; and that the said receipts be produced to the next session of Assembly, that the quantities delivered and received may be ascertained.

It is further voted and resolved, that the following persons be, and they are hereby, appointed to purchase the corn or rye for the several towns, to wit:

Newport, Mr. Christopher Ellery; Providence, Mr. James Arnold; Portsmouth, Mr. Thomas Shearman; Warwick, Mr. Charles Holden; Westerly, Mr. Edward Saunders; North Kingstown, Mr. Eber Shearman; South Kingstown, Mr. George Babcock; East Greenwich, Mr. Gideon Mumford; Jamestown, Mr. John Weeden; Smithfield, Mr. William Waterman; Scituate, Mr. John Williams; Gloucester, Mr. Moses Cooper; Charlestown, Mr. Gideon Hoxsie; West Greenwich, Mr. George Dyer; Coventry, Mr. Thomas Mathewson; Exeter, Mr. Pardon Tillinghast; Middletown, Mr. Nicholas Easton; Bristol, Mr. Shearjashub Bourne; Tiverton, Mr. John Cooke; Little Compton, Mr. Philip Taylor; Warren, Mr. John Child; Cumberland, Mr. James Lovett; Richmond, Mr. Robert Stanton; Cranston, Mr. Peter Burlingame; Hopkinton, Mr. Benjamin Maxson; Johnston, Mr. Job Waterman; North Providence, Mr. Edward Smith; Barrington, Mr. Thomas Allen.

It is further voted and resolved, that the several towns

within this state be, and they are hereby, called upon immediately to advance to the persons appointed to purchase the corn or rye apportioned to their respective towns, money sufficient to enable them to purchase the same.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the persons who shall receive the money as aforesaid, either deliver the corn or rye, or one silver dollar in lieu of each bushel of corn or rye apportioned as aforesaid, unto the commissary general of issues, on or before the time limited; and if the money be delivered in lieu of the corn and rye, that the said commissary general of issues forthwith purchase flour with the same, for the use of the militia.

Whereas, John Malbone, Esq., of Newport, hath brought forward an action of debt, for seventy-seven guineas, due for rent from Monsieur Laufrey Delisle, for sundry stores hired for the use of the French army; and as Monsieur Delisle is an officer under the orders of His Excellency Count de Rochambeau, the restraining him of his liberty here might be of public injury; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Newport take the said Monsieur Delisle's own bail, and suffer him to be at liberty; that no writs be issued against the said Monsieur Delisle, or any other officer in the French service, upon account of any rents, &c., owing, where the commanding officer disapproves of the payment; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to write to Congress upon this subject, to be informed in what manner the proprietors of stores, &c., shall receive compensation therefor.

An Act for mitigating of penalties on delinquents heretofore called forth to do military duty, and for directing fines to be paid into the general treasury in lieu of the town treasuries.

[For act at length, see Schedule.]

Whereas, the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., John Cooke, Esq., Mr. Joseph Brown, Thomas Holden, Esq., and Thomas Tillinghast, Esq., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit :

We, the subscribers, being appointed by the Honorable the General Assembly to point out the best measures for the defence of Rhode Island, do report: That it is necessary to have five platforms laid down at the fort at Easton's Point; that there be immediately removed from Butts's Hill, five eighteen-pound cannon, with their carriages, ammunition and apparatus, belonging to the same; and that there be a company, under the command of a captain, stationed in or near the said fort, where a constant and vigilant guard is to be kept.

We do further recommend that two field pieces be kept in the fort at Brenton's Point, with proper ammunition; and a subaltern's guard, composed of persons that understand the use of cannon, always to be on the ground. These, being supported by the garrison of Butts's Hill, and occasional succors from the main land, we doubts not will be able to repel any attack that may be made on Rhode Island in the present situation of the enemy.

We also recommend that the whole militia of the state be kept in readiness to march on the shortest notice; and that a conductor of military stores be appointed, to take charge of all the military stores on Rhode Island, and at Bristol and Tiverton.

All which is submitted by your Honors' most obedient, humble servants,

JABEZ BOWEN, THOMAS HOLDEN,  
JOHN COOKE, THOMAS TILLINGHAST.  
JOSEPH BROWN,

Newport, August 25, 1781.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted.

It is voted and resolved, that the quartermaster immediately hire a sufficient number of teams to remove five eighteen-pound cannon, with their carriages, necessary ammunition and apparatus, from Butts's Hill, to be placed in the fort at Easton's Point, agreeable to the report of the committee appointed to advise the best measures for the defence of Rhode Island; and that in case he cannot hire, to impress the same.

It is voted and resolved, that Robert Crooke, Esq., the deputy to Benjamin Bourne, Esq., A. D. Q. M. G., be, and he is hereby, directed to remove the militia from the private houses in which they are now quartered in the town of Newport, to the barracks and public buildings.

It is voted and resolved, that Christopher Ellery, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to take care of all the buildings, of every kind, which have been built by the French army or navy, in the town of Newport; that if any person shall attempt to pull down or remove any of the said buildings, he have full power to prevent the same, and that the commanding officer at Rhode Island afford him the necessary assistance for that purpose.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to write to His Excellency Gen. Washington, informing him of the salted provisions and rum being sent forward, agreeable to his requisition; and that he also inform him of the monthly supplies ordered, and how they are to be disposed of.\*

It is voted and resolved, that Jeremiah Olney, Esq., be lieutenant colonel commandant of this state's battalion of Continental troops; Coggeshall Olney, Esq., first major; John S. Dexter, Esq., second major; Daniel S. Dexter, captain; Dutee Jerauld, captain; Jeremiah Greenman, lieutenant; and William Pratt, lieutenant, of the same battalion; that they take rank from the 14th of May last; that Reuben Johnson be ensign of the same battalion, to take rank

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\* *Governor Greene to General Washington.*

Newport. August 21, 1781.

Sir:—In consequence of your Excellency's letter to Deputy Governor Bowen, of the 16th instant, I last evening dispatched orders by express, to the deputy quartermaster general at Providence, immediately to hire or impress a suitable vessel or vessels to transport the salted provisions in this state, provided for the continent, which are estimated at about four hundred barrels, and the thirty hogsheads of rum. The General Assembly have this morning advanced him the necessary sums to defray the expenses. As it is expected that the Count de Barras will sail to-morrow, I fear the vessel to be taken up will not be ready to go under his convoy; in which case I shall immediately acquaint your Excellency, and wait your further orders, as we have no vessel belonging to the state which will do for a convoy.

I enclose your Excellency a memo. of intelligence received by Capt. Munro, who arrived at Providence last Sunday evening, which is confirmed by Capt. Champlin, who also sailed with the fleet, and arrived here last evening.

I am, with great esteem, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

WM. GREENE.

To His Excellency General Washington.

P. S. As it is not probable the vessel can go under convoy of the French fleet, I shall be glad of your Excellency's earliest orders with respect to the provisions and rum, the more especially as in your letter your Excellency gave no directions to what place to ship them.

W. G.

from his appointment; and that the secretary transmit a copy of this resolution to the said Jeremiah Olney.

An Act for proportioning the supplies of beef to the several towns in this state, for the support of the army, for the months of October and November next.

An Act for incorporating and bringing into the field five hundred able-bodied, effective men, of the militia, to serve within this state for one month, from the time of their rendezvous, and for no longer term, and not to be marched out of the same.

[For these acts in full, see Schedule.]

Whereas, this Assembly did heretofore order that the assistants of this state should receive out of the general treasury one hundred dollars, old Continental currency, for each and every day they should attend upon the business of the General Assembly; and whereas, the said old Continental currency is now entirely out of circulation, and it is highly reasonable that the allowance aforesaid should be paid in passable money, according to the value thereof;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the assistants be paid out of the general treasury, in gold or silver, the value of the said one hundred dollars, old Continental currency, agreeable to the scale of depreciation as passed by this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that the council of war be, and they are hereby, directed to call before them the several brigadier generals who have neglected to comply with the acts of this Assembly, or the said council of war, in respect to the appointing officers to command the troops ordered out to do duty for the present month, or making returns of the officers so appointed, agreeable to a resolve of the council of war; that they also call before them the officers who have been appointed, and neglected to join the regiment on

Rhode Island; that they make inquiry into the reason of the deficiencies, and if it shall appear to the said council of war that either of the aforesaid officers have wilfully neglected their duty, that then the said council of war have full power to suspend such officers.

It is voted and resolved, that no provisions be issued from the commissary's stores in Providence; but that all issues be made, and rations drawn, from the stores in Newport.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Benjamin Bourne, expenses for transporting provisions .....	100 0 0
Dr. Peter Turner, for attendance on hospital of Col. Greene's regiment .....	5 14 9
Clarke & Nightingale, for ten barrels of flour for the troops .....	13 11 6
Benjamin Bourne, for fifty bushels of onions.....	9 7 6
John Slocum, a wounded soldier, in full for wages.....	30 0 0
Lucy Lawton, for boarding George Lawton, a wounded soldier.....	15 0 0
Dr. Jonathan Easton, for attendance on Benoni Wright, a sick soldier....	3 12 0
William Channing, for pleading to indictments against absentees.....	93 2 0
John Carter, for printing divers acts of Assembly.....	21 3 0
William Borden, collector of taxes, from the estates of absentees.....	330 3 0
Benjamin Bourne, Q. M. G., for expenses of his department.....	300 0 0
Thomas Rumriell, for his services as secretary and muster-master on Rhode Island .....	29 1 6
Captain Thomas Arnold, for expenses incurred by him when wounded at the battle of Monmouth, in 1778 .....	10 17 0
Dr. Isaac Senter, for attendance upon the sick of two militia regiments....	12 18 0
Joseph Crandall, for damages sustained in building a fort at Easton's Point .....	\$150 00

God save the United States of America.

*Governor Greene to General Washington.*

Warwick, 13th August, 1781.

Sir:—I had the honor of receiving your Excellency's favor of the 7th instant, and inform you that immediately upon the receiving your letter of the 24th of last May, I embraced the earliest opportunity of laying it before the Assembly, who very readily complied with its contents, and ordered five hundred of the militia of this state to be raised and stationed at the different posts on Rhode Island, by the 8th of last June, to do duty for the term of one month; since which, there has been two other orders for

five hundred men in each, to relieve monthly, until about the 8th of September next, by reason of the deficiency of the state of Massachusetts in not sending forward their troops, as a relief, agreeable to your requisition, as it was conceived by the Assembly that your letter implied to that amount. But discover, by yours of the 7th, a very essential difference, which I shall lay before the Assembly, in the early part of their sessions, to be held on the 20th instant, who, I make not the least doubt, will very readily comply with it, although it is truly distressing, in addition to the many extraordinary exertions heretofore made by this state.

By the best information I have been able to procure, there were sixty-one men, including officers, from the state of Massachusetts, on Rhode Island, the 22d day of July last, and by another return, since the 1st August, there were, including officers, one hundred and ten men only. I thought it might be prudent to inform your Excellency of this, that you might have knowledge thereof, and if you think proper, to call upon Governor Hancock to have the remainder forwarded.

I am, with every sentiment of esteem and respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

WM. GREENE.

To His Excellency General Washington.

N. B. As your requisition of the 24th May, and that of the 7th of August, are so materially different, that you may not think I am mistaken, have enclosed you a copy of that of the 24th May.

W. G.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at South Kingstown, on the last Monday in October, 1781.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

Whereas, Mr. Michael Byron, now of Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that he hath sailed out of Philadelphia for nine years past, and hath been five times imprisoned by the enemies of the United States; that about five weeks ago he was a prisoner in New York, on board the prison ship, where great mortality prevailed, and fearing the consequences thereof, did enter on board a small privateer, intending to make his escape by the first opportunity; that soon after, he and Peter Loney made their escape in a small boat, taken by the privateer, which was laden with three barrels of rum, four barrels of cider,

four boxes of candles, and one sea compass, and was brought by them into the harbor of Newport; and thereupon he prayed this Assembly to order and direct that the aforesaid boat and goods, which are now in the commissary's possession in Newport, by order of Lieut. Col. Christopher Olney, may be delivered unto him and the said Peter Loney; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and hereby is, granted; and that the commissary deliver the said boat and appurtenances, with the goods, unto the said Michael Byron and Peter Loney, to be by them disposed of for their own use.

Whereas, Messrs. Peter Burlingame, the third, Job Manchester and William Field, Jr., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly,  
for running the line between Scituate and Foster.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee, by the Honorable the General Assembly, at August session, A. D. 1781, to accurately measure the dividing line between the towns of Coventry and Scituate, and fix and establish a boundary in the middle thereof, and from thence to run north, parallel with the seven mile line, until it comes to the dividing line between Scituate and Glocester, in order to divide the town of Scituate into two distinct towns, do report: That, in obedience thereto, we have proceeded upon the said business, and do conclude and agree upon, as the boundary in the middle of the line between the towns of Coventry and Scituate, at the southwesterly corner of the present town of Scituate, and at the southeasterly corner of the town of Foster, a rock split in two parts, with a heap of stones on it, which is about sixteen poles east upon the abovesaid line from the northwest corner of Ephraim Westcot's homestead farm in Coventry, and bears north fourteen degrees west from the middle of the chimney of the said Ephraim Westcot's small dwelling house about twenty-five poles, which we establish as a boundary between the towns of Scituate and Foster, and from thence to run northerly, parallel with the seven mile line; and that we have made several monuments in the said line, until it comes to the dividing line, so called, between Scituate and Glocester, to a pole and some stones round it in a piece of ground called the Brush Meadow, of the following dimensions, to wit: The whole extent is five inches and six-tenths long, and is four rods and twenty links east on Glocester line, from a small, sharpish rock, at the point of the upland, which we also establish as a boundary between the towns of Scituate and Foster.

Witness our hands, this 18th of September, A. D. 1781.

PETER BURLINGAME, the Third,  
JOB MANCHESTER,  
WILLIAM FIELD, JR.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted.

Whereas, Oliver Fowler preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that he was born at Jamestown, and when about twelve years of age was bound an apprentice to John Wyatt, of New York, where he continued, endeavoring to get a subsistence by his labor, until about seven weeks ago, when, being destitute of money and friends, he entered on board a small privateer, fitted out from New York, which was taken, and he brought into this state, where he now is a prisoner upon parole; and thereupon he prayed this Assembly to release him from his parole, and permit him to become a subject of the United States, by taking the necessary oaths; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, granted.

Whereas, Samuel Dyre, Esq., of Newport, now confined in the gaol of said county, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that at the superior court, &c., held at Newport, in November last, he was, upon a prosecution brought forward by the state's attorney, fined the sum of seven thousand silver dollars, and sentenced to suffer six months imprisonment; that he hath already endured upwards of eleven months confinement, in which time he has been obliged to expend a very considerable sum for the support of his family, and been deprived of the means of acquiring a subsistence by his industry; and that his circumstances are much embarrassed, and he is not capable of discharging his debts; and thereupon he prayed this Assembly to remit the fine aforesaid, and restore him to the privileges of a citizen; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that upon the said Samuel Dyre's paying into the general treasury the sum of fifteen

hundred silver dollars, and paying all costs of prosecution and conviction upon the information against him, and giving bonds, with two sufficient sureties, for his good behavior during the present war, he be liberated from the prison where he is now confined at the suit of this state; and that he be thereupon discharged from the fine laid upon him by the superior court.

Whereas, Mrs. Amy Goldthwait, wife of Sam'l Goldthwait, late of Newport, merchant, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that her said husband is now in New York, and hath requested her, with her family, to come to him, as he cannot be permitted to return here; and thereupon she prayed this Assembly to permit her, with her family, furniture and effects, to go to her said husband at New York, by the first opportunity she may procure; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and is, so far granted, that the said Amy Goldthwait, with her household furniture, be permitted to go to New York, in a cartel vessel, under the directions of William Taggart, Esq.

It is voted and resolved, that Thomas Holden and Archibald Crary, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire what cannon have been taken from Mr. Oliver R. Warner, and how many belonging to him are in the possession of this state; and that they make report to this Assembly or to the council of war.

Whereas, Mrs. Sarah Wanton, widow of the late Joseph Wanton, Esq., of Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that her said husband's brother, William Wanton, now residing in New York, hath informed her by letter that he would send her, by a flag of truce, when one presented for Newport, some small trifling articles of clothing and necessaries for the use of herself and child; and thereupon she prayed this Assembly to grant her permission to receive the same, if the said articles should be sent to her, under the inspection of a proper person appoint-

ed for that purpose ; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Sarah Wanton be, and she is hereby, permitted to receive from her friends in New York any presents that shall be sent in specie, but no articles of goods whatever.

Whereas, Mr. Edward Hull, of South Kingstown, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that he hath a large landed estate on Block Island, and prayed this Assembly to grant him liberty to go on the said Island and collect his rents, and bring from thence some articles of provision for the use of his family ; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Edward Hull be, and he is hereby, permitted to go upon Block Island and collect his rents, and bring off the produce of the said island, under the direction and inspection of Gideon Hoxsie, Esq.

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kent sell and dispose of the negro boy, which he took as the estate of Alexander Hopkins, of West Greenwich, at public vendue, to the highest bidder for the said boy, who shall serve until he arrive unto the age of twenty-one years ; that the purchaser of the said boy give bonds, with sufficient sureties, unto the general treasurer of this state for the time being, and to his successors in the said office, in the penalty of the sum of five hundred pounds, silver money, not to sell or send the said boy out of this state, without leave from this Assembly first had and obtained ; and that the said boy shall be considered as an inhabitant of the same town where his master who shall purchase him shall be resident.

And it is further voted and resolved, that upon the said boy's serving out his apprenticeship with faithfulness, he shall be exonerated from all the bonds of servitude as a slave.

Whereas, Welcome Arnold, Esek Hopkins and Charles Keen, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following re-

port, by virtue of their appointment by this Assembly to inquire into the loss sustained by Mr. Robert Lawton, who had a vessel that was cast ashore on Warwick Neck, and there stripped and otherwise damaged, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly relative to the damages to a vessel owned by Robert Lawton.*

The subscribers having proceeded on the business before mentioned, notified the parties, and fully heard them upon the premises, do report: That Robert Carr, Curtis Cole, Caleb Carr and Benajah Cole, stripped the said vessel of one cable, one anchor, two pieces of junk and three blocks, which appeared by their own confession; and that we estimate the damage the said Robert Lawton hath sustained in his said vessel at five hundred silver dollars; which is submitted to the Honorable the General Assembly, by their humble servants,

WELCOME ARNOLD,  
ESEK HOPKINS,  
CHARLES KEEN.

South Kingstown, October 31, 1781.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted.

Whereas, Mr. Moses Brown, of Providence, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that in the year 1774, he remitted a bill of exchange of sixty pounds sterling to Mary Hind, in London, to be laid out in books, principally for his own library; that before the said books could be sent him, the non-importation agreement took place in America, on account of which they have remained in London at his risk; that, by permission from the council of war, he wrote for the said books to be shipped, in expectation that they would be allowed to be brought from New York in a flag; and that the act entitled "an act more effectually to prevent illicit trade," &c., hath been since made, which supercedes the doings of the council of war; and thereupon he prayed this Assembly to grant him liberty to import the said books from Great Britain; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Moses Brown be,

and he hereby is, permitted to import the said books from Great Britain into this state, by such ways as he may devise, which shall not be prejudicial to the United States, without being subject or liable to seizure or confiscation.

Esek Hopkins and John Jenckes, Esqs., having laid before this Assembly the following receipt, to wit:

Providence, September 28, 1781.

Received of Messrs. Esek Hopkins and John Jenckes, a committee appointed by the Honorable the General Assembly, to receive all the old Continental money out of the general treasurer's office, and deliver the same to me, as keeper of the loan office, two millions one hundred and fifty-one thousand two hundred and sixty-five dollars and two-thirds of a dollar, equal to six hundred and forty-five thousand three hundred and seventy-nine pounds, fourteen shillings, bills of the old emission of Congress.

JOSEPH CLARKE,

Commissioner of the Loan Office in the state of Rhode Island.

2,151,265 2-3 dollars.

£645,379 14s.

It is thereupon voted and resolved, that the said receipt be received, and placed upon the records of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that John I. Clark, Esq., Mr. Joseph Brown, John Jenckes, Welcome Arnold, Stephen Potter and Rufus Hopkins, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to take into consideration the several acts heretofore passed by this Assembly, respecting the state of the Continental emissions of paper currency, and how far and at what rates the same should or might be paid, or received in payment, for debts at any time contracted by mortgage, bond, note or otherwise, and to present a bill to this Assembly for repealing such of the said acts, or such parts of them, as they shall think necessary; and to provide such modes of payment, and of entering up judgments in future, and of rectifying such as are already passed and not yet satisfied, as may tend to the due distribution of justice, as far as may be, to the debtor and creditor.

Whereas, Messrs. William Tefft, Joseph Tefft, Samuel Tefft, Stephen Rogers and Simeon Clarke, all of Richmond, and Messrs. Gideon Clarke, Samuel Babcock and Joshua Randall, all of South Kingstown, have certificates signed by

Charles Holden, Jr., Esq., commissary general of purchases, for provisions sold him for the use of this state; and whereas, all the said persons are indebted to the state for the keeping of stock on the Point Judith farm, belonging to this state;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the committee appointed to rent the state farms be, and they are hereby, empowered to endorse all such sums of money as shall be due to this state as aforesaid on their said certificates; that the same shall be in full compensation for so much as shall be due unto this state, and that they be endorsed on the said certificates at the time that they severally became due.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the said committee be, and they are hereby, directed to call upon all persons that are indebted to this state, for the pasturage of cattle on the aforesaid farm, and that if they do not settle and pay the balances that are due, in a reasonable time, they be sued for the same.

Whereas, the safety and internal security of this state render it necessary that a military force should be raised and maintained within this state, for the defence thereof; and whereas, it is found by experience, that drafting or detaching from the militia of this state, for that purpose, is attended with a great expense and many inconveniences;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that one hundred able-bodied, effective men, officers included, be immediately raised for the defence of this state, to do duty therein (and not to march out of the same,) from the time of their enlistment until the 1st day of April next, unless sooner discharged by this Assembly; and that the said men be formed into one company, to be commanded by one captain, two lieutenants and two ensigns, and be allowed each, upon his passing muster before the captain of the said company, and furnishing himself with a blanket, ten silver dollars, as a bounty; provided, nevertheless, that the said bounty shall

be allowed to such persons only as shall enlist into the said company in the month of November.

And it is further voted and resolved, that each able-bodied man who shall enlist as aforesaid, shall be furnished with a gun, bayonet, cartouch-box and canteen, to be returned at the expiration of his service; and that in case any of the said men shall furnish themselves with a gun, bayonet and cartouch-box, they shall be allowed a further sum of twelve shillings, silver money, each.

It is further voted and resolved, that there be appointed for the said company six sergeants, who shall be allowed each fifty-four shillings, silver money, per month; six corporals, and one drummer and fifer, who shall be allowed each fifty shillings like money per month; that the privates be allowed each forty-eight shillings, silver money, per month; and that the commissioned officers be allowed the same wages and rations as are allowed to officers of the same rank in the Continental service.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the officers and soldiers who shall be raised and embodied as aforesaid, be under the same rules, orders and regulations, as those of the Continental army, and that each soldier sign the following enlistment, to wit :

"I, the subscriber, do solemnly engage and enlist myself as a soldier, in the pay and service of the state of Rhode Island, &c., from the day of my enlistment until the 1st day of April, A. D. 1782, unless sooner discharged by the General Assembly; and I hereby promise to submit myself to all the orders and regulations of the army, and faithfully to observe the orders I shall receive from my officers."

Whereas, a certain negro, called Plato Wheeler, formerly a slave of Paul Wheeler, of Stonington, in the state of Connecticut, was purchased by Thomas Wells, the second, of Hopkinton, in this state, for the purpose of his, the said slave's, being made free, and entering as a soldier into the Continental regiment of this state; and the said slave did thereupon freely enlist as a soldier in the said regiment, but hath since absconded, and returned into the said state of

Connecticut, and it is represented that his former master supports the said negro in the said fraudulent conduct;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to write to the governor of the state of Connecticut, and inform him of the above mentioned circumstances, and request that an order may be made, and proper means used, for remanding the said negro to this state, that he may be forwarded to the said regiment.

It is voted and resolved, that John Boyer be, and he is hereby, liberated from his parole, he behaving as a good citizen of this state; and if he shall choose to go upon Block Island, that he be permitted to go in the boat with Col. Ray Sands, under the direction of Enoch Hazard, Esq., there to remain until liberty be granted by this Assembly for his return.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins and William Rhodes, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inspect into the public stores belonging to this state, upon the wharf of Mr. Joseph Brown, and cause such of them to be removed as they shall judge proper; that they sell at public vendue, or private sale, such of them as they shall judge not to be immediately wanted by the public, and pay the money arising from the sales thereof into the general treasury; and that they make report of their doings, and the situation of the said wharf as occupied by the public.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins and John Jenckes, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to sell and dispose of all the sugars belonging to this state, in their possession, at public vendue, to the highest bidder, and that they pay the amount thereof into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. George Westgate, a deputy sheriff in the town of Tiverton, be, and he is hereby, empowered to sell, at public vendue, several old gun car-

riages, and other useless stores belonging to this state, in Tiverton and Little Compton; and that he do the same under the direction of John Cooke and Wm. Richmond, Esqs., and pay the money arising from the sale thereof into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer of this state be, and he is hereby, directed, within twenty days from and after the rising of this Assembly, to issue his warrants of distress against the town treasurer of each and every town which shall be delinquent in paying into the general treasury the whole proportion of the tax of twenty thousand pounds, silver money, assessed upon the inhabitants of this state, which warrants shall be returnable within ten days into the said treasurer's office.

Whereas, in and by a certain act of this Assembly, heretofore made and passed, for completing this state's quota of Continental troops, committees were appointed in the several towns within this state, to class the inhabitants thereof, for furnishing the men respectively assigned them; and whereas, Messrs. Elisha Bartlett, Jonathan Harris, Solomon Owen, John Fenner, John Wells, Benajah Whipple and John Smith, were therein appointed a committee for the town of Gloucester, but did not class the inhabitants of said town within the time prescribed by the said act; and whereas, the said town hath since furnished the men assigned them as aforesaid, and the said committee have prayed this Assembly that they may be discharged from the penalties prescribed by the said act;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Elisha Bartlett, Jonathan Harris, Solomon Owen, John Fenner, John Wells, Benajah Whipple and John Smith, be, and they are hereby, exonerated and discharged from all the penalties to which they are or have been liable, in consequence of their not classing the said inhabitants within the time prescribed by the said act, and that they be restored to all the privileges of citizens of this state.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly by the town of Warwick, that in January last the said town ordered a town tax of ten thousand pounds, in old Continental money, when the same passed current at seventy-two dollars for one silver dollar, to be collected and paid into the treasury of the said town on or before the 10th day of April last; that part of the said tax is collected and paid into the treasury, since which the said currency hath so greatly depreciated as to become of very little value; and that if the remainder of the said tax be collected and paid in the said currency, the said town will be injured, and injustice done; whereupon,—

It is voted and resolved, that the collector of taxes for the said town of Warwick be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to collect the remainder of the said tax in silver money, at and after the rate of one silver dollar in lieu of seventy-two old Continental dollars, and that he pay the remainder of the said tax, not yet paid into the said treasury, in like manner.

An Act altering and changing the name and style of the county heretofore called King's county, in this state, into the name and style of Washington.

Whereas, since the declaration of the independence of the United States of America, it becomes the wisdom of the rising republic to obliterate, as far as may be, every trace and idea of that government which threatened our destruction;—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that the name of King's county, by which the southernmost county in this state was heretofore distinguished, shall forever hereafter cease; and that, in perpetual and grateful remembrance of the eminent and most distinguished services and heroic actions of the illustrious commander-in-chief of the forces of the United States of America, the said county shall forever hereafter be known and called, in all legislative acts, legal proceedings, conveyances, &c., by the name and style of Washington.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer of this state do not, after the rising of this Assembly, receive into the general treasury any more money of the old Continental emissions for taxes or debts due to the state; that he lay before this Assembly, at the next session, an account of the deficiencies of each town of all the taxes heretofore

made and ordered; and that this act be published immediately after the rising of this Assembly, in the Providence and Newport newspapers.

It is voted and resolved, that the draft of a letter presented unto this Assembly, in answer to several letters from Robert Morris, Esq., financier general of the United States, be, and the same is hereby, approved; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to cause a fair copy thereof to be made, and sign and transmit the same as soon as may be.\*

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. John Weeden be, and he is hereby, appointed to make inquiry into the number of rails removed from the farm late Joseph Wanton's, to the farm late Thomas Hutchinson's; that he immediately cause the same to be returned, and delivered to the tenant of the

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\* *Gov. Greene to Hon. Robert Morris.*

Providence, October, 1781.

Sir:—In my letter of ——— last, I informed you that I had laid your several favors of the 16th, 25th and 27th of July last, before the General Assembly, who appointed a committee to examine into the several matters referred to therein, by whom I am enabled, in some measure, to give you that information which was requested; but as our accounts are not fully completed, cannot state them with that exact precision as will be necessary; but from the following general account, you will easily perceive that this state hath not only fully answered the expectations of Congress, but greatly exceeded their own abilities. Nevertheless, relying on the justice of Congress, they have hitherto, with uncommon exertions, not only supplied their own quotas of troops, clothing, &c., but have advanced for the United States such sums of money, which yet remain unpaid, that it is with the greatest difficulty imaginable that we are able to furnish the many pressing demands against us.

I shall not repeat the spirited and vigorous measures early adopted by this state against the common enemy; they are too well known, and are still unrelentingly pursued.

The supplies furnished by this state were regularly charged against the United States, and the accounts from time to time sent forward to Congress, there being always a large balance in favor of this state.

In December, A. D. 1776, the enemy, with a very great naval and land armament, took possession of the capital and one-third part of this state, with the entire possession of all its harbors, at a time when no force but our state troops and militia were to oppose them; when our treasury was exhausted, and it was indispensably necessary to make resistance. Our militia were called on, and with the assistance of our sister states, we were enabled to confine them to the islands and sea coast. From the number of troops which were soon collected, it became necessary that money, or a substitute, should be had. It had then been recommended by Congress, that the respective states should not emit any more paper bills; but from necessity, the Legislature of this state were obliged, in December, 1776, to pass an act for the general treasurer to issue his notes to the amount of forty thousand pounds, payable within two years, with an interest at six per cent. per annum. The urgent occasions therefor soon drained the treasury of the whole amount; and not receiving any supplies of cash from Congress, the Legislature, in February, 1777, were again compelled to direct the general treasurer to issue his notes to the amount of fifty thousand pounds, payable within five years, at an interest of four per cent. per annum. As the notes carried an interest, they were engrossed, and it being out of the power of this state to pay them off, they now remain a debt against us, and the holders consider them of a value equal to gold and silver, at six shillings for a dollar.

As the army was in this state, and the several departments thereof required money, applications were

Wanton farm, together with the boards and timber belonging to the barn on the said farm, which may have been removed as aforesaid; and that Messrs. Royzel Smith and James Bliven, who removed the said rails, be at the expense of carrying them back.

It is voted and resolved, that a council of war be appointed for this state, to be invested with the same powers that the council of war last appointed were clothed with; and that the said council consist of five members.

Both houses being joined in a grand committee, made choice of the following officers, to wit:

His Excellency the Governor, His Honor the Deputy Governor, Gideon Mumford, Thomas Holden and Jeremiah Clarke, Esqs., the council of war.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq.,

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made to the General Assembly and council of war, who were zealously devoted to exert every nerve in order to support and maintain a war so justly necessary, granted large sums of money, whereby the debt against the United States was greatly accumulated: and by an account stited and sent forward to Congress, in April, A. D. 1778, the balance in favor of this state amounted to £160,780 6s. 4d., from which time until the 13th day of May, A. D. 1780, we continued to supply the different departments of the army; and by an account then stated and sent forward to Congress, a balance of £251,729 6s. 10 1-2d. was due unto this state, exclusive of which we had regularly paid the taxes required by Congress, and have paid into the Continental treasury or loan office in this state, the sum of 5,350,000 old Continental dollars, including the sum necessary to bring into circulation the whole amount of the new emission sent to this state, which amounted to 180,000 dollars, of which Congress have received by drafts 52,000 dollars, being the whole amount of their 4-10 parts. We have issued 40,000 dollars, chiefly on Continental account, and there remains in our treasury 80,000 dollars, which will not be put into circulation. The Legislature have made a tax for calling in 20,000 dollars thereof, to be paid into the general treasury by the last of December next.

From the depreciated state of the Continental currency, in the beginning of the year 1780, it was with the greatest difficulty our soldiers could be kept in the field; and Congress having recommended to the several states to make good the wages of the officers and soldiers in the Continental battalions, a committee were appointed by this state to adjust and settle the accounts of the officers and soldiers in the Rhode Island battalions in the service of the United States, who, having carefully examined the same, reported a balance of £26,043 3s. 2d., real money, due unto them, which hath been fully paid, and a further sum of upwards of £10,500 is due unto the soldiers who enlisted for three years, and ————— yet remain unpaid.

The taxes assessed upon the inhabitants of this state, in solid coin, in order to pay off the balances due unto the officers and soldiers in the Continental army, and the raising the specific supplies required by Congress, together with the filling up the Continental battalions for the campaign of 1780, which could only be done by real money, had so drained the inhabitants of this state of their gold and silver, that it became necessary, in June, 1780, in order to raise the monthly supplies, and other requisitions of Congress, for this state to adopt some other measures than taxation. This state being possessed of a quantity of lands, which the former proprietors had, by joining the enemy, forfeited, the same were confiscated to and for the use of this state; and in order to ease the inhabitants of the great burthens laid upon them, which they contributed with cheerfulness to the extent of their wealth, the Legislature passed an act for the emitting the sum of twenty thousand pounds, lawful money, equal to gold and silver, at the rate of six shillings for a dollar, to be paid on or before the 1st day of January, A. D. 1781, with an interest at five per cent. per annum, and funded the same upon said confiscated estates, and appointed a committee

and William Taggart, Esq., be, and they are hereby appointed to examine and inquire into the deficiencies of the several towns, respecting the raising of soldiers for the Continental and state battalions which have been assigned them, from October, A. D. 1776, until the present period; and that they make out an exact list of each town's deficiency, upon each requisition, and report the same to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that all the proceedings of the town of South Kingstown, heretofore had at the several town meetings held on the 18th of April, the 5th of June, and the 30th of July, A. D. 1781, excusing a number of the inhabitants of the said town, as delinquents, be, and the same are hereby, declared null and void; that Col. Thomas Potter have a right of action at a special court, in like man-

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to dispose of the same estates for said bills or gold and silver only, by which means we were capable of obtaining the monthly supplies as required by Congress. But that sum being soon exhausted, from the many calls for money, it became soon after necessary for the General Assembly, in order to procure the salted provisions, &c., required by Congress, to direct the commissary general of purchases of this state to issue his certificates, to the persons of whom he purchased, of the articles received and the price to be given; and which the General Assembly directed to be received in payment for other lands ordered to be sold, or to be paid in gold and silver by the 1st day of January, and the 14th of April, 1781, by which means we have not only procured all the specific articles required by Congress, but have also been able to supply, upon urgent occasions, much more than our quota.

The filling up the Continental battalion of this state, in order to take the field early in the spring of A. D. 1781, being of the utmost importance, the recruits were proportioned to the respective towns in this state, and a bounty of one hundred silver dollars to be paid out of the general treasury for each recruit enlisting for three years.

The difficulty of the recruiting service being such from many reasons, that a recruit cost the towns from 150 to 300 real dollars, including the bounty given by the state, whereby the inhabitants are greatly distressed; and the scarcity of money is such that it is with the greatest difficulty that taxes are now collected, owing entirely to inability to discharge them.

The amount of this state's account against the United States, for expenditures in gold and silver only, amount to upwards of sixty thousand pounds, besides a large account in the new emission. We have furnished the quartermaster, in order to transport stores, &c., with £1,620, new emission, and £1,263 16s., real money.

The accounts are completing, to send forward to Congress, and I flatter myself they will be ready to go on with Mr. Ellery, our delegate. By those accounts, you will at one view see that we have not only fully complied with the requisitions of Congress, but are greatly in advance; and I doubt not but we shall be relieved from our perplexed and distressed situation, by Congress making us such a grant towards discharging the balance due unto us, as will make us at all times in future exert ourselves upon pressing occasions more than our real abilities will admit.

With respect to the impost of five per cent., recommended by Congress to be laid upon all imports and exports, at present we are unable to determine upon the utility of that measure, as the revenue arising therefrom, within this little state, would not be worth collecting. We shall wait until our sister states have adopted the same, and whatever is for the advantage of the Union, we shall cheerfully accede to.

I shall, by Mr. Ellery, write you more fully upon the subject, and in the interim,

Remain, &c.,

W. GREENE.

To the Hon. Robert Morris, Financier.

ner as sheriffs, &c., have in certain cases, against the town treasurer of the said town of South Kingstown, for such demand and the interest thereon, as he had before such proceedings of the said town, against the various delinquents and collectors of delinquent monies; that the said town of South Kingstown be, and hereby is, empowered, by a committee or otherwise, to consider the particular cases of such of their inhabitants as conceive themselves aggrieved by being returned delinquents, and to relieve such persons as shall appear to merit their consideration, in part or in the whole, as to them shall appear just; and that the warrants heretofore issued by the committee for classing the inhabitants of said town, remain in full force, and be returnable and the monies to be collected and paid into the town treasury of the said town, in two months from the rising of this Assembly, unless the persons against whom such warrants have been issued obtain relief from the said town in manner as aforesaid within that time.

An Act for regulating the fees to be received by the intendants of trade within this state.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of eight hundred silver dollars out of the general treasury, in order to send forward to Philadelphia: four hundred dollars thereof for the use of James M. Varnum, Esq., and the other four hundred dollars for the use of Daniel Mowry, Esq., delegates in Congress from this state, and that they account for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that this Assembly do approve of the conduct of the committee in fitting the sloop Rover on a cruise against the enemy's armed boats, at the time Capt. Joseph Olney had the command of the said sloop;

and that this resolve be published in the newspapers in this state.

Whereas, Silas Bates, who enlisted into this state's regiment in the Continental service, for Christopher Lippitt, Esq., his class in the town of Cranston, has since deserted, and the said Silas Bates hath a real estate in the town of West Greenwich ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kent take possession of the said estate, to and for the use of this state.

And whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that Daniel Brown, of Tiverton, hath been concerned in fraudulently enlisting men into the Continental service, and hath absconded, so that he cannot be taken upon a warrant issued against him to answer said offence, and that the said Daniel Brown hath a real estate in the town of Tiverton ; wherefore, that justice may be done,—

It is voted and resolved, that the real estate of the said Daniel Brown be taken possession of in behalf of this state, by the sheriff of the county of Newport ; and that the said sheriffs be furnished with copies of this vote, and make return to the next session of this Assembly.

Whereas, Mr. George Gardner, of South Kingstown, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that his daughter, Sarah Littlefield, is sick at Block Island, and prayed this Assembly to grant him liberty to bring her from the said island ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted ; and that the said George Gardner have liberty to bring off to the main the said Sarah Littlefield, under the inspection of Enoch Hazard, Esq.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz. :

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Joseph Henderson, for conveying Stephen Franklin, a state prisoner, from Boston to Providence.....	9 0 0
Richard Sephton, a soldier in Col. Greene's regiment, who lost his arm....	6 0 0
Solomon Southwick, for flour supplied the troops on Rhode Island.....	21 15 9
Welcome Arnold, for disbursements in fitting out the sloop Rover.....	92 13 6
Paul Allen, " " " " " .....	79 2 0
Benjamin Bourne, for expenses of the quartermaster's department .....	300 0 0
Nathaniel Mumford, for boarding Abner Briggs, a wounded soldier.....	10 2 11
Jabez Bowen, for arms, ammunition, &c.....	423 1 2
Ephraim Bowen, for transportation of hay from Point Judith to Newport..	18 0 0
Henry Barber, for printing acts of Assembly, Advertisements, &c.....	9 6 0
Joseph Waldron, for cartridge boxes, belts, &c., for Col. Cooke's regiment.	13 9 9
Mrs. Martha Fenner, of Cranston, widow of Daniel Fenner, a soldier.....	31 7 11
Clarke & Nightingale, for empty rum hogsheads.....	21 15 0
Beriah Waite, for carrying acts of the General Assembly and the council of war.....	7 4 0
William Rodman, for boarding and nursing a sick soldier in Col. Greene's regiment .....	5 18 0
William Dyer, of South Kingstown, for corn furnished the Kingstown Reds .....	7 15 3
William Hammond and others, for expenses in driving cattle to the Continental army.....	99 18 6
Jabez Bowen, to pay bounties to soldiers.....	300 0 0

God save the United States of America.

*Resolve of Massachusetts for Enlisting Men for Service in Rhode Island.*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the House of Representatives, Sept. 28, 1781.

Whereas, application hath been made to this state by the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, for assistance from the militia of this commonwealth, for the defence of that state in case of an invasion by the enemy.

Resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to issue his orders to the brigadier or commanding officer of the several brigades from which the five hundred men were ordered to be raised, to do duty on Rhode Island for five months, agreeable to a resolve of General Courts, passed June 16th, 1781, to see that the aforesaid men be raised, equipped and marched immediately.

And be it further resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to order the brigadier, or commanding officer of the brigade in the county of Bristol, to order the whole of the militia under his command; the brigadier, or commanding officer of the county of Plymouth, to order the regiments commanded by Colonels Hayden and Nelson; and the brigadier of the county of Suffolk, to order Colonel Maun's regiment; and the brigadier of the county of Worcester, to order three-fourths of Colonel

Tyler's and Colonel Wheelock's regiment; and the brigadier, or commanding officer of the county of Middlesex, to order Colonel Gleason's regiment, to hold themselves in readiness to march at the shortest notice from Governor Greene or Governor Bowen, for the relief or defence of Rhode Island, equipped according to law, with three days' provisions.

And be it further resolved, that if the aforesaid militia, or any part thereof, shall march in consequence of these orders, they shall receive the same pay and subsistence as the officers and soldiers of the Continental army.

Sent up for concurrence.

NATH'L GORHAM, Spt. S.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at East Greenwich, on the second Monday in December, 1781.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kent be, and he is hereby, directed to give notice unto Mr. Joseph Mathewson and Mr. James Bates, both of Coventry, that they be and appear before this Assembly, at the present session, in order to give information respecting a note of hand given by the said Joseph Mathewson unto one Silas Bates, a soldier who enlisted into the Continental service, and hath since deserted,—which note is assigned unto the aforesaid James Bates.

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Washington, or his deputy, be, and he is hereby, directed to cause George Popple, of Hopkinton, to appear before this Assembly, at the present session, to answer unto a certain accusation against him, for enlisting a man by a fictitious name to serve in the Continental army, and aiding and assisting him to desert.

Whereas, by an act of this Assembly, passed at January session, A. D. 1781, for apportioning beef to the several

towns, it was therein ordered that the certificates of the delivery thereof should be received in payment of so much of the next state tax as the same should amount to, at the rate therein affixed ; and whereas, the same hath been considered as an equal apportionment, and no town hath received satisfaction therefor out of said tax ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said apportionment operate as a tax, and that the said certificates be not received in payment of the said tax, anything in said act to the contrary notwithstanding.

A state of the account of Capt. Henry Dayton, with the report of the auditor thereon, being laid before this Assembly, as followeth, to wit :

State of Rhode Island in account current with Henry Dayton, for bounties and other charges, in raising the company of men under my command, in November last, to do duty on Rhode Island.

1781.	Debtor.	£ s. d.
Nov. 21.		
21. To cash paid for a drum head.....	0 6 0	
Ditto for a pair of drum snares.....	0 3 0	
Ditto for a pair of drum sticks.....	0 3 0	
Ditto for a drum head.....	0 1 6	
Ditto express and horse hire to Providence.....	1 16 9	
Ditto sundry expenses from the 6th to the 21st of November, for public services in recruiting my company.....	15 0 0	
Ditto bounty to ninety men, per receipts.....	270 0 0	
Ditto my expenses to Greenwich.....	1 10 0	
26. Ditto for a drum head.....	0 3 0	
28. Ditto horse hire and expenses of Jeremiah Rogers, to go to Greenwich.....	0 18 8	
Ditto for an orderly book and one quire of paper.....	0 14 0	
		<hr/> £290 15 11

1781.	Creditor.	
Nov. 10.		
10. By cash from Gov. Bowen, per his son.....	150 0 0	
12. By cash from ditto, per Mr. Miller.....	30 0 0	
19. By cash from ditto, per Mr. Channing .....	105 0 0	
Balance due to Henry Dayton.....	5 15 11	
		<hr/> £290 15 11

Examined the foregoing account, and compared the vouchers with the charges, find them agree, and the account right cast.

T. RUMREILL, Auditor.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby, accepted ; and that the balance of the said account, being five pounds, fifteen shillings and eleven pence, silver money, be allowed and paid the said Henry Dayton out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. William Taggart, John Jenckes, Jonathan J. Hazard, Thomas Holden and Thomas Allin, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to devise the best ways and means to supply the troops doing duty on the island of Rhode Island, with their rations for the winter ; and that the said committee inquire into the quantities of beef and grain supplied by the several towns for the use of the troops.

It is voted and resolved, that upon George Irish, Esq., giving his note of hand unto the general treasurer of this state, for the time being, for the sum of fifteen hundred silver dollars, payable upon demand, with interest until paid, to and for the use of this state ; and upon Mr. Samuel Dyre's paying all costs of prosecution and conviction, and giving bonds for his good behavior during the war, that then the said Samuel Dyre be discharged from gaol, where he is now confined at the suit of this state, and be exonerated from the fine laid upon him by the superior court of judicature, &c.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the said George Irish shall not be called upon for the said money until his accounts against the state be finally adjusted ; and that then the sum aforesaid shall be deducted from the balance due to the said George Irish, if the same shall amount to the said sum of fifteen hundred dollars.

Whereas, Quaco, a negro man, formerly a slave belonging to James Honyman, Esq., of Newport, hath represented unto this Assembly, that during the time that Newport was a British garrison, the said James Honyman had agreed to sell and dispose of him to Col. Campbell, a British officer ; that

the service in a British regiment being extremely disagreeable to him, he fled from the island of Rhode Island, at the peril of his life, and placed himself under the protection of the authority of this state; that from his representations of the state of the island of Rhode Island, and all matters of fact which came to his knowledge, the council of war permitted him to go at large, and have his liberty; and that since the evacuation of Rhode Island, he is disagreeably alarmed with a claim upon him as a slave by Mr. William Tweedy, who is administrator to the estate of the said James Honyman; and thereupon he besought this Assembly to grant him a full and entire manumission from the bonds of slavery; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Quaco remain in the same situation he is at present, until the next session of this Assembly, without being liable to be taken and held as a slave; and that in the meantime the said William Tweedy be cited to appear at the next session of this Assembly, to shew cause, if any he hath, why the said Quaco should not be entirely manumitted and absolved from his ties of slavery and bondage.

Whereas, an act of this Assembly, heretofore passed, repealing an act entitled "an act for the ease of prisoners for debt, so far as the same respects private debtors," is attended with many inconveniences;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said act be, and the same is hereby, repealed; and that the said act, entitled "an act for the ease of prisoners for debt," commonly called the thirty per cent. act, be and remain in full force, so far as the same respects private debtors; provided, nevertheless, that the same shall not extend to any town treasurer, committed upon an execution issued by the general treasurer, anything in the said acts to the contrary hereof notwithstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor, and His Honor the Deputy Governor, be, and they

are hereby, severally requested to order the two flags which have lately sailed from Providence, with prisoners from Boston to New York, in order to relieve the prisoners belonging to the commonwealth of Massachusetts, into Taunton river, to land them; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to write immediately to the governor of Massachusetts, informing him that the said flags will be sent there, in order that provision may be made for the reception of them by the said commonwealth.

Whereas, Mrs. Sarah Wanton, of Newport, widow of Joseph Wanton, Esq., late of said Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that this Assembly did give her the rents of the farms, late her said husband's, lying on the islands of Jamestown and Gould Island, for the support of herself and family, until the further order of this Assembly; and prayed this Assembly to indulge her in nominating a tenant for the said farms, for the next year, to be approbated by any person this Assembly may appoint; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Sarah Wanton lease the said islands, agreeable to the said petition, provided the tenant be approved of by William Channing, Esq.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., assist, with his advice, Metcalf Bowler, Esq., in completing, as soon as may be, the accounts of this state against the United States; that they call upon all persons who have accounts unsettled with the state, to settle and adjust the same immediately; and all persons who are possessed of any accounts or vouchers against the United States, wherein this state is interested, are hereby required and directed forthwith to adjust the same with them.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of forty pounds, eleven shillings and two pence, silver money, (agreeable to the auditor's report,) be allowed and paid unto Robert Crook, Esq., out of the general treasury, in full for his negro

slave Dick, who enlisted into Col. Christopher Greene's regiment, in the Continental service.

A note given by the general treasurer, for one hundred and twenty pounds, unto Mr. John Coddington, in March, 1778, being exhibited to this Assembly, for a slave enlisted into Col. Christopher Greene's regiment, in the Continental service, and duly examined by the auditor,—

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of thirty-eight pounds, eighteen shillings and one penny, silver money, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury to Miss Mary Coddington and Mr. Nathaniel Coddington, executors of the last will and testament of the said John Coddington, deceased, in full for the said note.

It is voted and resolved, that John Jenckes, Esek Hopkins and Theodore Foster, Esqs., be, and they, or the major part of them, are hereby, appointed a committee to examine into and adjust all the claims of persons who had their stock driven off Rhode Island, previous to the enemy's taking possession of the said island, which was made use of for the support of the troops doing duty, or was appropriated by the state or otherwise; and that they attend unto the claims, as exhibited, with the several proofs and vouchers thereof, and make report unto this Assembly at their next session.

And, for the purpose of giving all the inhabitants of this state an opportunity of exhibiting their claims for the stock lost, the said committee are directed to advertise in the Providence and Newport newspapers, a fortnight preceding the time they intend to meet, of the time and place when and where they will attend upon the business aforesaid.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the same committee convene at some suitable place upon Rhode Island, for that purpose.

Whereas, application hath been made unto this Assembly, in behalf of Capt. William Littlefield, that he may have lib-

erty to appear before this Assembly, in order to vindicate his character, which he says hath been unjustly aspersed; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said William Littlefield have liberty, at any time within seven days previous to the sitting of the next session of this Assembly, to deliver himself up to His Excellency the Governor, and that he appear before the next session of this Assembly to represent his case truly.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Dennis Byrne, a person who was in the ship Mars, that was stranded upon New Shoreham, have his parole to reside within this state; that the claimants, owners of the privateer which captured the said ship Mars, and the persons who saved the cargo of the said ship, and brought the same into East Greenwich, pay the expense of the said Dennis Byrne, and his woman servant, who hath been at the prison-house until this time; and that the said Dennis Byrne support himself and his said servant from this time.

It is voted and resolved, that His Honor the Deputy Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to write to the council of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, requesting that David Tuman, who enlisted into this state's Continental battalion, may be sent into this state and delivered up to the authority thereof, in order to discover some pernicious transactions in recruiting; and that George Popple, who was had before this Assembly for malpractice in enlisting the said David Tuman by the name of John Smith, appear before the next session, in order to answer to said crime alleged against him.

Whereas, there is not sufficient provision made by law for calling to account the collectors of taxes, who make distress of goods and chattels for the payment of any taxes within this state;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the town councils of the several towns in this state be, and they are hereby,

empowered to call upon the several collectors of taxes within their respective towns, to settle with such town council upon any distraint and sale of any goods and chattels by them made, from any person or persons, for the payment of any tax or taxes heretofore ordered ; and that if any money shall appear to be in the hands of any collector, the said town councils shall order the same to be appropriated towards the payment of any tax or taxes that hath already been, or shall be, assessed on the person or persons whose goods or chattels have been distrained as aforesaid.

It is further voted and resolved, that, for the future, when any collector shall make distraint of any goods and chattels for the payment of any tax or taxes within this state, he shall, within three days from the time of the sale of the said goods and chattels, leave an account with the town council of such town where the same shall be sold, of the names of the persons whose stock or other property he hath distrained and sold for the payment of taxes, and the amount of the sales of the same ; that the said collectors shall, once in three months, settle and adjust their accounts with the said town councils of their respective towns ; and that, if any money shall remain in any collector's hands, after paying the said tax and all lawful costs arising thereon, the said town councils shall order it to be appropriated for the payment of the next tax which shall be assessed upon the person or persons distrained from as aforesaid.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the said town councils be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed, at any time when complaint or information shall be made to them that any collector of taxes of their respective towns hath distrained any goods or chattels as aforesaid, and hath not accounted for the same, to summon such collector to appear before them, to render an account, and pay the surplus money arising from the sale of goods and chattels distrained as aforesaid. And in case any such collector shall neglect or refuse to appear and render such account, and pay the

said surplus money, when required thereto as aforesaid, he shall forfeit and pay as a fine double the amount of the taxes which shall have been distrained for by him as aforesaid, and also all costs respecting the same, for the use of the town, to be recovered by the town treasurer of the town to which such collector shall belong, by bill, plaint or information, before any court of record in the state.

Ordered, that this act be published in the Newport and Providence newspapers.

Whereas, John Jenckes, William Taggart, Jonathan J. Hazard and Thomas Holden, Esqs., and Mr. Thomas Allin, laid before this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly, to make an estimate for Provisions for Capt. Henry I. Dayton's Company, &c.*

That there are now doing duty at Newport and Providence, ninety-eight men, officers included, under the command of Capt. Henry I. Dayton, belonging to this state, and are to do duty until the 1st day of April, A. D. 1782; and that it appears to your committee, that the said officers and men have a right to draw one hundred and five rations per day, which will in four months, (from the 1st of December to the 1st day of April,) amount to nineteen thousand and fifty-seven pounds weight and one-half of beef, nineteen thousand and fifty-seven pounds weight and one-half of meal, four hundred bushels of potatoes, one hundred and thirty-six pounds weight of soap, one hundred and eight pounds weight of candles, and sixty-five cords of wood.

Your committee beg leave further to report, that it is their opinion that the troops be supplied with one-half salted provisions, and the other half with fresh beef; that the provisions, &c., be delivered to Lieut. James Miller, of the said corps, who shall receive as extra pay for issuing the same, three pounds, silver money, per month; that the fresh beef be supplied out of this state's proportion agreed to be furnished for the Continental army, for the month of December instant, and the salted provisions out of that which is in this state, belonging to the continent; that the corn and potatoes be delivered out of the rents of the state's farms, and the candles and soap be supplied out of the tallow that belongs to the state, now in the store of John Jenckes; and that the wood be furnished by the assistant deputy quartermaster general, and delivered to the aforesaid James Miller. As there are no accounts of the quantity of beef and corn supplied by the several towns, we cannot say anything on that subject.

All which is submitted to the Honorable the General Assembly, by, gentlemen,  
Your most obedient, humble servants,

JOHN JENCKES,	THOMAS HOLDEN,
WILLIAM TAGGART,	THOMAS ALLIN,
JONATHAN J. HAZARD,	Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted.

And it is further voted and resolved, that one ration per day be issued to each of the following persons in the staff department, to wit:

Robert Crook, assistant quartermaster; John B. Pinnegar, store-keeper; William Engs, clerk; Samuel Bosworth, store-keeper, and Reuben Chilson, wagoner and hostler.

And it is recommended to Benjamin Bourne, Esq., A. D. Q. M. G., to discharge all the other persons employed in his department, as the reasons for their further continuance in office do not appear to this Assembly any longer to exist.

It is voted and resolved, that each and every town within this state furnish this General Assembly, at the next session, with a true, exact and accurate copy of the rate-bill for each respective town, for assessing their proportion of the sum of twenty thousand pounds, silver money, upon the inhabitants thereof; that the said copy of the rate-bill be attested by the town clerk of each respective town, and that a certificate upon the said rate-bill be made, declarling what the poll tax is in each town respectively.

And it is further voted and resolved, that each and every town which shall neglect to furnish a copy as aforesaid, shall be considered as not having their full proportion of assessments laid upon them.

And it is further voted and resolved, that this act be published in the Providence Gazette.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Stanton and Jonathan J. Hazard, Esqs., and Mr. Samuel J. Potter, be, and they, or the major part of them, are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire what towns are deficient in furnishing their quotas of beef and grain, agreeable to the requisitions of th's Assembly, and that they make report accordingly.

Whereas, it is necessary that the lot of land lying in Hop-

kinton, and the two house lots lying in North Kingstown, formerly the property of Thomas Cutter, which have been confiscated to and for the use of this state, should be sold ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Washington be, and he is hereby, directed to dispose of the said tracts of land, at public vendue, after advertising the same thirty days, for the money emitted by this state which is funded on real estates, or gold and silver, or certificates given by Charles Holden, Esq., commissary of purchases; and that the said sheriff pay into the general treasury the money arising from the sale thereof; and the general treasurer is hereby directed and empowered to give a good warranty deed of the said tracts of land unto the purchaser or purchasers.

It is voted and resolved, that the justices of the peace, or any one of them, in the respective towns where depredations and destruction have been committed by the enemy, during the present war, cause two or more reputable citizens to estimate the said damages, according to the value of the articles thus injured or destroyed, specifying the numbers, quantities and qualities of such articles, and distinguishing between those wantonly destroyed, and those destroyed in the usual prosecution of war; that the said justices cause affidavits to be made to such estimates, and make return thereof to the next session of this Assembly; and that copies of this act be published in the Newport and Providence newspapers.

Whereas, by a late resolution of Congress, the sum of two hundred and sixteen thousand silver dollars was required of this state, payable in the year 1782, and to be subject to the disposition of Robert Morris, Esq., financier general of the United States; and whereas, the abilities of this state will not admit of collecting and paying the said sum in money, agreeable to the said resolution ;—

It is thereupon voted and resolved, that the delegates of

this state in Congress be instructed to confer with the said Robert Morris, respecting the receiving of such articles of the produce of this state as can be furnished for the use of the army, in payment of so much of the said sum required of this state as aforesaid, as the same shall amount to at the prices to be agreed upon, and to request that the sums of money, which may from time to time be collected and paid, agreeable to the said resolution, may be expended within this state, that the inhabitants thereof may not be deprived of a circulating medium, without which a full compliance with the said resolution will be impracticable.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., Rouse J. Helme and William Channing, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft a letter, to be signed by His Excellency the Governor, if approved by him, communicating the foregoing resolutions to the said delegates, and requesting an answer for the information of this Assembly, at the next session; and that the said letter be transmitted in such manner as the said committee may think advisable, so that an answer may be seasonably obtained.\*

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\* *Gov. Greene to the Delegates in Congress:*

December 22, 1781.

Gentlemen:—The late requisition of Congress, for this state to assess upon the inhabitants the sum of 216,000 dollars, subject to the disposition of Robert Morris, Esq., Fin. Gen., has been received and laid before the General Assembly the week past.

The sum required was so large, that it was unanimously concluded that it could not by any ways or means be raised in specie, and but a possibility that it could be supplied in the articles and produce of the country.

The Assembly were pleased to appoint a committee upon the subject, in order that I might be the more fully informed respecting the real situation of this state; and to give you such information respecting our resources, as to enable you, gentlemen, to confer with Mr. Morris upon this occasion, and to endeavor that the sum required of us might be raised in such articles of the produce of this state, as can be furnished for the use of the army, at such stipulated prices as can be agreed on.

I am fully sensible how extreme disagreeable the cries of poverty and distress are, and how necessary it is that punctual payments should be made by the several states, when required by Congress for the support of our army and the credit of the United States. And it is indispensable that the true circumstances of the resources of the state should be known, in order that more should not be required than it is possible to attain.

As, gentlemen, your vocations have led you to reside chiefly at Philadelphia for some time past, you cannot conceive the great alterations in this state with respect to the abilities of the inhabitants to pay their taxes.

Whereas, the council of war did direct the sheriff of the county of Kent to take certain goods, clothing, &c., which belonged unto the United States, in the hands of John Reynolds, Esq., late deputy clothier, and deliver the same unto Archibald Crary, Esq.; and whereas, it appears that great part of the said goods and clothing are damaged, and some of them are entirely spoiled;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Archibald Crary immediately write unto —— Moyland, Esq., clothier general of the United States, and inform him of the quantity and condition of the same, and request him to give orders respecting the disposition of the said articles.

It is voted and resolved, that John I. Clark, Christopher Ellery, William Channing, Theodore Foster and Rouse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they, or the major part of them, are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into and ascertain the just value of the debts upon securities which this state owes to individuals, or which are owing unto this state; and to make a scale of the value of the debts, according to the several periods when contracted, so that the same may be known and ascertained in real money; and that they make report thereof to the next session.

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As this state is small in extent, and heretofore the inhabitants chiefly depended upon navigation and mercantile employments, that resource being cut off, a great number of persons who formerly were in affluent circumstances are now reduced to indigence, their little savings being expended.

The circulating cash hath been in a great measure collected, and sent out of this state to pay our army when to the westward, and for other purposes, whereby the scarcity thereof hath become uncommonly great.

The quartermaster's department here hath been solely supplied with money from this state, to send provisions, clothing, &c., forward to the grand army. And as the money collected is expended without this state, and but a very small staple to bring it in again, you can easily account for our poverty.

This state affords some provisions, and articles of clothing. Coarse woolens, blankets, stockings, shoes and linen are manufactured here; and if the monies collected from the inhabitants were to be expended among them, it would enable them in some measure to bear with their burthens.

As we, from the earliest period of this contest, engaged with a full determination to exert every possible means to attain the desirable end sought for, we still hold our integrity. I make no doubt, gentlemen, you will in the most pressing terms place our real situation before Mr. Morris, in such a light that he may notice the attention of this state, and cause such articles to be supplied by us, as will be a means of retaining the small quantity of cash within it for a circulating medium.

The General Assembly will meet at Providence, on the last Monday of January next, by which time you will send an answer respecting this proposition.

I am, &c..

WML. GREENE.

To the Delegates in Congress.

Whereas, William Davis, Esq., sheriff of the county of Newport, presented unto this Assembly the following report, written upon the copy of an order passed by this Assembly at the last session, for taking into his possession all the real estate of Daniel Brown, to wit :

*Report of the Sheriff of Newport, upon Land of Daniel Brown.*

By virtue of the within command, I have this day taken into possession all the real estate of the said Daniel Brown, it being the one half of two tracts of undivided land, lying in Tiverton; one part containing about one hundred acres, with a dwelling house and other buildings thereon standing, and is butted and bounded easterly on the Eight Rod road, so called, southerly on land of Pardon Gray, Esq., westerly on Sapowit swamp, and northerly on a three rod way; the other tract of land lies in Sapowit, and contains about seventy acres, and is bounded easterly on a highway, southerly and westerly on the salt water, and northerly on land of Abraham Brown; and have left a certificate at the town clerk's office in said Tiverton, of the aforementioned vote, and described premises.

WILLIAM DAVIS, Sheriff.

Tiverton, November 5, 1781.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted.

An Act proportioning the quantity of sixty thousand pounds weight of beef, to the several towns within this state, for supplying the army, being the quota of this state for the month of December, A. D. 1781.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

Whereas, Mrs. Mary Thurston, wife of Edward Thurston, late of Newport, merchant, now residing at New York, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that her said husband hath repeatedly requested her to send to him at New York, her son, Edward Thurston, the younger, in order to have him educated under his own inspection; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to grant liberty to her said son, Edward Thurston, to go to New York in the first flag; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is,

granted; and that the said Edward Thurston, Jr., be permitted to go to New York, in the first flag, under the direction of Christopher Ellery, Esq.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that a certain William Young, a follower of the French army late at Newport, was apprehended and confined by the general of that army, upon suspicion of having carried on a treasonable correspondence with the enemy, and was left and now is in the gaol in the county of Newport;

And whereas, the said William Young is not a citizen of the United States, and it is dangerous to the public safety that he should be at large therein; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Newport be, and he is hereby, directed to procure a passage on board some vessel bound to any place not within the United States, and that the said William Young be put on board the same, and depart therein, not again to return to this state; and in case the said William Young shall return within this state, the sheriff of either of the counties is directed immediately to apprehend and confine him in either of the gaols within the same, until the further orders of this Assembly.

Whereas, the troops doing duty on Rhode Island, under the command of Capt. Henry Dayton, are entitled to draw one hundred and five rations of provisions per day, which will in four months, to wit, from the 1st day of December to the 1st day of April, amount to nineteen thousand and fifty-seven pounds and an half weight of beef, nineteen thousand and fifty-seven pounds and an half weight of meal, four hundred bushels of potatoes, one hundred and thirty-six pounds weight of soap, one hundred and eight pounds weight of candles, and sixty-five cords of wood; in order that the said articles may be furnished in a manner the most reasonable for the state, and most certain and convenient for the troops,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said troops be supplied

with one-half of the beef salted, and the other half fresh; that the same be delivered to Lieut. James Miller, of the said corps, by him to be issued to the said troops, who shall be allowed an extra pay of three pounds, silver money, per month for that service; that the necessary quantity of fresh beef be furnished to the said James Miller, by Col. John Topham, who is to receive beef for this purpose from the several towns in the county of Newport, pursuant to an act passed at this session; that the salted beef be furnished by the assistant quartermaster general; that the said meal and potatoes be procured by William Channing, Esq., from the rents of the state farms, and delivered to the said James Miller, from time to time, as the same shall be wanted; that the said candles and soap be furnished by John Jenckes, Esq., out of the tallow belonging to this state in his possession; that the assistant quartermaster general procure and deliver to the said James Miller, the aforesaid quantity of wood, as the same shall be wanted; and that the said James Miller keep an exact account of all his proceedings in consequence of this act, and lay the same before this Assembly, when he shall have finished the said business.

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kent forthwith take possession of such part of the goods which were saved from the prize ship Mars, which was stranded upon Block Island, as will be sufficient to pay the account of Ichabod Smith, for keeping Dennis Byrne and his woman servant in prison, who were taken in the said ship; and that he sell the said goods at public vendue, within twenty days after seizing the same, unless the owners or captors discharge the said debt.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£	s.	d.
Oliver Jenckes, for passages of deserters from Newport to Providence.....	1	4	0
John Slocum, of Portsmouth, a wounded soldier.....	12	0	0
Captain Henry Dayton, to pay soldiers that furnished themselves with fire- locks.....	20	8	0
Expense of erecting a beacon and furnishing a guard at Watch Hill.....	56	10	5
John Russell, for his services, with four men, to guard the magazine.....	7	10	0
Pay abstract of beacon guard on Little Rest Hill.....	93	12	0
Rouse J. Helme, for provisions furnished soldiers of Gen. Sullivan's expe- dition .....	27	8	0
William Tobey, for attendance of Dr. Elisha Tobey on wounded soldiers at Howland's Ferry .....	5	2	0
James M. Varnum, delegate to Congress, for his services and expenses 366 days .....	549	0	6
B. Bourne, for Disbursements in quartermaster's department.....	300	0	0
George Lawton, of Newport, a wounded soldier.....	9	0	0
John Carter, for printing acts of Assembly, advertising deserters, &c.....	6	2	11
Edward Pierce, of the state's artillery, for the loss of an arm.....	20	0	0
Thomas Thurston, for beef furnished the state troops.....	5	19	6
William Teft, for carting corn to Bissell's Mills.....	4	0	0
William Rhodes, for driving cattle to the Continental army.....	19	6	2
Preserved Pearce, Beriah Waite and Thomas Babcock, for arresting sun- dry persons suspected of burning the barn of Othniel Gorton.....	51	3	0
Beriah Waite, for arresting George Popple by order of the General As- sembly .....	3	6	0
Caleb Sheldon, for boarding deserters of the army.....	13	12	8
Sylvester Gardner, for boarding a sick soldier of Colonel Greene's regi- ment .....	12	18	0
Oliver Bowen, expenses in going to New York to exchange prisoners....	\$140	00	
Oliver Jenckes, for his services as recruiting officer.....	20	00	
Colonel Archibald Crary, for purchasing clothing.....	600	00	
William Ellery and Ezekiel Cornell, delegates to Congress.....	400	00	

God save the United States of America.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Providence, on the last Monday in January, 1782.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

Upon the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the town of Foster, belonging to the company lately known by the style of the fourth company or trained band in the town of Scituate, before it was divided,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said company be, and hereby is, divided into two companies; that the part of the said company lying on the east side of the river, known by the name of Pomamgansett river, be set off and incorporated into a company, which shall be the fourth company of militia in the town of Foster; and that the following officers be, and they are hereby, appointed to command the same, viz.: Christopher Colwell, captain; Squire Bucklin, lieutenant; and John Round, Jr., ensign.

Upon the petition of Thomas Wickham, of Newport, praying for liberty to go to New York, upon business of great consequence to his distressed family, and to return,—

It is voted and resolved, that upon the said Thomas Wickham's engaging to use his utmost endeavors to procure such copies of accounts from the books of Messrs. Joseph and William Wanton, at New York, as the committee for settling and adjusting the estates of absentees shall request, he be permitted to go to New York, in a cartel vessel, under the direction of William Taggart, Esq., for the purpose aforesaid, and to return back again to Newport.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if Mr. William Wanton, or the person in whose care the books are that late

belonged to the partnership of Messrs. Joseph and William Wanton, shall refuse to suffer or permit the said Thomas Wickham to take true and exact copies from the said books of such accounts as shall be requested, this Assembly must have recourse to the estate which they now permit Mrs. Sarah Wanton, widow of the late Joseph Wanton, Esq., to enjoy, for her comfortable support and the education of her son, in order to pay the debts due from said estate.

Upon the petition of John Forrester, of Newport, praying for liberty to remove, with his family and furniture, to the city of New York,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be granted; and that the said John Forrester do not again return within this state, upon the penalty of being proceeded against as is directed in an act heretofore made and passed, for preventing the persons therein named from again returning within this state.

Whereas, this Assembly did, at their last session, resolve that if Abraham Whipple, Esq., should produce a certificate from the navy board at Boston, that the debt due from him unto Christopher Ellery, Esq., was on public account, and that they are not in cash to pay the same, that said Whipple be discharged from the debt; and that this Assembly will make provision for the payment thereof, and interest; and the said Abraham Whipple having presented unto this Assembly a certificate from the navy board at Boston, agreeable to the above requisition,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Abraham Whipple be, and he is hereby, discharged from the said execution.

Whereas, Quaco, a black man, formerly a person whom James Honyman, Esq., late of Newport, in the county of Newport, deceased, held in the bonds of slavery, did, during the time that the British troops were in possession of said Newport, and at the time that said Honyman was living, leave said island, and flee from the said British troops, and

place himself under the protection of this government; and did, by the information he then gave, render great and essential service to this state and the public in general; and the council of war having given unto the said Quaco a permit to pass and repass freely, without molestation, and thereby the said Quaco did consider himself as a freeman; but that since the death of the said Honyman, and the evacuation of Rhode Island, some of the representatives of the said Honyman have laid claim unto the said Quaco as a slave; whereupon the said Quaco begs this Assembly to take the matter into consideration, and make such order thereon as they may see fit; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Quaco be, and he is hereby, declared to be manumitted and absolved from all ties of bondage and slavery which he heretofore owed and was held to by the said James Honyman, Esq., deceased, or any of his representatives, and he is hereby declared to be a freeman accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that Benjamin Bourne, Esq., assistant deputy quartermaster general in this state, deliver to Lieut. Miller, quartermaster of Capt. Henry Dayton's corps, doing duty upon Rhode Island, one hogshead of New England rum in his possession, belonging to this state, for the use of the said corps.

Whereas, Henry Champlin, late of Westerly, in Washington county, yeoman, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that about two years ago he hired a farm upon New Shoreham, and went there with his family to reside; that the attachment he had for the interest and good of his country led him, upon all occasions and opportunities, to give such information respecting the movements of the enemy, that he is considered by them as a dangerous person to their interest; and that he has had several informations lately, that the refugees intend to destroy his property at New Shoreham, seize his person, and carry him off to New York; and thereupon the said Henry prayed

this Assembly to grant him liberty to remove, with his property and family, from said New Shoreham into some other part of this state; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Henry Champlin have permission to come off the said island, with his family and property, into some other part of this state, under the inspection of William Taggart, Esq.

Whereas, the inhabitants of the town of South Kingstown, in the county of Washington, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that they are greatly oppressed and burthened with taxes; that the town treasurer of the said town, being now confined in gaol for a deficiency in the last tax, hath called a special court, and obtained a judgment against the collector of taxes and his bondsmen; that the collector hath seized the stock of many of the inhabitants, and notified them for sale; and that, in consequence thereof, one universal scene of distress is spread throughout the said town; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to grant them relief, by permitting the town treasurer to be released for the present, and giving the inhabitants of said town a further time to pay their deficiency, they paying interest therefor, &c.; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the said county of Washington be, and he is hereby, directed to release the town treasurer of the said town of South Kingstown from gaol, and permit him to go at large; that the collector of taxes for the said town use his utmost diligence in collecting the deficient taxes of the said town, and pay the same, with the interest arising thereon, into the general treasury, by the first day of March next; and that if the collector of said town shall neglect to pay into the general treasury the deficiency of the taxes for said town, by the said first day of March, the said town treasurer be re-committed to gaol for such deficiencies, by the sheriff of the said county of

Washington, upon the original warrant of distress from the general treasurer, and the said sheriff is ordered to commit him accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that the conduct of His Honor the Deputy Governor, with respect to the landing at Pawtuxet, and providing for the prisoners who were brought from New York in a flag, in December last, be, and the same is hereby, approved; that the twenty dollars which he received out of the general treasury, for the purpose of supplying the sick with necessaries, be charged by the general treasurer to the account of the state, and that the Deputy Governor receive his note that he gave for said sum.

It is voted and resolved, that Josiah Flagg, Esq., who hath the care of the military stores within this state, have the liberty of improving the cellars under the state house in Providence, as repositories for the public stores belonging to this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the collector of taxes for the town of Scituate be, and he is hereby, allowed until the first day of March next to collect and settle the taxes for the town aforesaid with the general treasurer; that in the meantime the sheriff postpone sale of all estates taken in consequence of the collector's neglecting to pay the same in due time; and if the said collector shall neglect by said time fully to settle the deficiency, with the interest, that the sheriff immediately proceed to the sale of said estates.

Upon the petition of the retailers of spirituous liquors, inn-holders and other inhabitants of the town of Newport, praying that a law now in force in this state, entitled "an act granting an excise upon wine and other strong liquors, sold in the towns of Newport and Middletown, by retail," may be in all its parts totally repealed,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be referred to the next session of this Assembly; and that the said town of Newport be cited, by serving the town treasurer of

the said town with a copy of the said petition, to appear then, and shew cause, if any they have, why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. John Jenckes, Geo. Irish and Rouse J. Helme be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to receive and hear proposals, during the session of this Assembly, from any persons who incline to purchase any of the confiscated estates in Newport, and that they report thereon to this Assembly, with their opinion respecting the same.

It is voted and resolved, that a state tax of twelve thousand pounds, silver money, be assessed upon the polls and estates of the inhabitants within this state, on or before the 20th of April next, to be collected and paid into the general treasury within six months; and also that a tax of six thousand pounds, silver money, be assessed in like manner, for supplying the Continental treasury, to be paid in by the 1st of April next.

And it is further voted and resolved, that a tax of six thousand pounds be assessed in articles of produce of the country, &c., for supplying the army, at the disposition of Congress, to be assessed and proportioned the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that upon Dr. Isaac Senter's, of Newport, paying into the general treasury of this state the sum of twelve hundred silver dollars, to and for the use of this state, that the general treasurer, in the name and behalf of the state, sign, seal, and otherwise duly execute, a deed-poll, with warranty, conveying unto the said Isaac Senter, his heirs and assigns forever, in fee simple, the lot of land, with the house and buildings thereon, situate in Newport aforesaid, on the south side of the parade, bounded northerly on the parade, easterly on land late Josias Lyndon's, Esq., southerly on land now or late Mr. Daniel Manton's, and westerly on Thames street, with the appurtenances; which aforesaid lot, houses and appurtenances, were

late the property of Joseph and William Wanton, and confiscated to and for the use of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer of this state, be, and he is hereby, allowed the sum of three hundred pounds, silver money, in full compensation for his salary, fees and perquisites, as treasurer of this state, and also in full for all fees and services done by his clerks, or others in said office, from May, 1780, to May, 1781.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. William Taggart, William Richmond, Welcome Arnold, William Rhodes, Rouse J. Helme, Pardon Tillinghast, Nathaniel Fales, Thomas Allen, Adam Comstock and Stephen Potter, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to apportion the taxes ordered to be assessed upon the inhabitants of this state at present session, to wit: The sum of twelve thousand pounds for a state tax, to be collected and paid by the 1st of August next; the sum of six thousand pounds for a Continental tax, to be paid by the 1st of April next; and the sum of six thousand pounds, in articles of produce, at a future day.

Whereas, Paul Mumford, Esq., exhibited unto this Assembly a certificate from the committee for valuing slaves, for a negro man belonging to him, that enlisted into Colonel Greene's regiment, in the year 1778; and the auditor of accounts having reported that the sum of forty-three pounds, four shillings and eight pence, silver money, according to the scale of depreciation, is due thereon; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said sum of forty-three pounds, four shillings and eight pence, be paid the said Paul Mumford out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq., Captain Samuel J. Potter and Robert Stanton, Esq., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the deficiency of the several towns in regard to the beef and corn apportioned unto them respectively.

It is voted and resolved, that William Richmond, Thomas Holden and Stephen Potter, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the quantity of stock, &c., which was taken off the island of Rhode Island in December, 1776, when the enemy took possession thereof, who received the same, and what became of it, and make report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer of this state, or the general treasurer for the time being, be, and he is hereby, directed to make and execute, in the name and behalf of this state, good and perfect deed or deeds, conveying, with warranty, unto the officers of the respective regiments in the pay of this state, in the service of the United States, for the said officers, in behalf of themselves and the several non-commissioned officers and soldiers in their respective regiments, to hold in fee the respective lands, houses and tenements, set off and appropriated to and for their use, in part of their depreciation due unto them, saving and excepting the farm or land which was confiscated as the estate of Charles Ward Apthorpe, Esq., which is claimed as an estate belonging to the heirs of Mrs. Elizabeth Hutchinson, deceased, under mortgage to the said Charles Ward Apthorpe, until the same shall be settled.

Whereas, a number of the inhabitants of the towns of Wrentham, Franklin, Bellingham, Mendon, Uxbridge and Douglass, in the commonwealth of Massachusetts, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that they conceive themselves to be under the jurisdiction of this state, provided the southerly line of the state of Massachusetts was rightly settled; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to procure an order of Congress for that purpose; whereupon,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be received, and that the subject matter thereof be referred to the consideration of the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., Jonathan Arnold, Esq., Welcome Arnold, Esq., Mr. Joseph Brown, William

Richmond, Esq., James M. Varnum, Esq., and Pardon Til-  
linghast, Esq., and that they make report thereon to the  
next session of this Assembly.

Whereas, Capt. Henry Dayton exhibited unto this As-  
sembly the pay roll of his company for the month of No-  
vember last, which being examined by the auditor, and duly  
considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount thereof, being  
one hundred and ninety-six pounds and four pence, one  
farthing, silver money, be, and the same is hereby, allowed;  
that Thomas Rumreill, Esq., make out certificates agreeable  
thereto, to be delivered to the said Henry Dayton, and by  
him to the officers and soldiers respectively, and that said  
certificates be paid out of the state tax now ordered; and  
the several collectors of taxes, and general treasurer, are  
hereby directed to receive the same in payment thereof.

Whereas, Capt. Henry Dayton exhibited unto this As-  
sembly another pay roll of his company, for the month of  
December last, which being examined by the auditor, and  
duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount thereof, being  
two hundred and eighty pounds, six shillings and eleven  
pence, three farthings, silver money, be, and the same is  
hereby, allowed; that Thomas Rumreill, Esq., make out cer-  
tificates agreeable thereto, to be delivered to the said Henry  
Dayton, and by him to the officers and soldiers respectively,  
(after deducting fifteen pounds from the said Henry Day-  
ton's certificate, he having received that sum this session, by  
order of this Assembly,) and that said certificates be paid  
out of the state tax now ordered; and the several collectors  
of taxes, and general treasurer, are hereby directed to re-  
ceive the same in payment thereof.

Whereas, Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney presented to this  
Assembly the following pay abstract, to wit:

*Pay Abstract of Wages due to the late Col. Christopher Greene and Major Ebenezer Flagg, from the 1st of February to the 14th of May, 1781, at which time they were both killed, serving in the Continental army.*

	£ s. d.
Colonel Greene, three months and fourteen days wages, to May 14, 1781, at £22 10s. per month.....	78 3 0
Major Flagg, three months and fourteen days wages, to ditto, at £15 per month.....	52 0 0
	<hr/>
	£130 3 0

I certify that six months wages, due to Colonel Greene and Major Flagg, each, from August 1, 1780, to January 31, 1781, was drawn by the paymaster of the regiment last spring, in bills of the new emission, and was sent to the heirs of said Greene and Flagg some time in July, 1781.

JEREMIAH OLNEY, Lieut. Col. Commandant.

Providence, February 6, 1782.

And whereas, the committee appointed to consider the said abstract, made the following report, to wit:

The subscribers, to whom was referred the foregoing abstract, beg leave to report, that they find due to the estate of Col. Christopher Greene, deceased, two hundred and thirteen pounds three shillings, silver money, for nine months and fourteen days pay, due the 14th day of May, 1781; and the sum of one hundred and forty-two pounds, silver money, due to the estate of Major Ebenezer Flagg, deceased, for nine months and fourteen days pay, due the 14th of May, 1781. And the subscribers further report, that the sums of new Continental money forwarded to the heirs of the said Col. Greene and Major Flagg, deceased, by the paymaster of the regiment lately commanded by the said Col. Greene, for six months pay due to them, as certified in the said abstract, be returned by the said heirs into the general treasury,—the said monies not having been received by the said Col. Greene and Major Flagg in their lifetime, nor by any person since their decease, in satisfaction of their pay, due as aforesaid.

Which is submitted by

JOSEPH STANTON, JR.,  
W. CHANNING.

All which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby, accepted; that the heirs to the estates of the said Christopher Greene and Ebenezer Flagg pay into the general treasury the sums of Continental money which have been received by them as aforesaid; that thereupon the administrator to the estate of Col. Greene, deceased, be

empowered to draw the said sum of two hundred and thirteen pounds three shillings, silver money, out of the general treasury; and that the administrator to the estate of the said Ebenezer Flagg, deceased, be empowered to draw the sum of one hundred and forty-two pounds, silver money, out of the general treasury: which aforesaid sums are to be paid out of the state tax assessed at the present session, and to be in satisfaction of the wages due as before reported.

It is voted and resolved, that two hundred effective men be recruited into the service of the United States, by voluntary enlistment, to serve for the term of three years, or during the war; that each effective man so enlisted, mustered and received, by the oldest Continental officer residing in the state, shall be entitled to a bounty of one hundred dollars in specie; that one man in each county be empowered to enlist said men, in addition to the recruiting officer of Col. Olney's battalion; that Messrs. Henry Dayton, Simeon Thayer, Thomas Potter, Thomas Allen and Michael Whitmarsh be, and they are hereby, appointed to recruit; that for every soldier recruited and mustered as aforesaid, five dollars be allowed; and that on any person's being enlisted and mustered as aforesaid, His Honor the Deputy Governor be empowered to give an order for the said bounty on the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that upon Wm. Channing, Esq., paying into the general treasury the sum of twelve hundred dollars, in gold or silver, the general treasurer, in behalf of this state, make and execute a good deed-poll, conveying, with warranty, unto the said William Channing, his heirs and assigns, in fee simple, the lot of land, with the house, buildings and appurtenances, situate in Newport, which did late belong unto Joseph Durfee, and hath been confiscated unto this state, being the house which the said Joseph Durfee formerly lived in.

Whereas, Robert Stanton, Esq., Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq.,

and Mr. Samuel J. Potter, presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly,  
to inquire into the deficiency of beef from the several towns.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee, by this General Assembly, to examine the accounts of the beef furnished by the several towns within this state, for the use of the army, from the month of August, 1781, to January, 1782, being five months, do report, that we examined the returns of Mr. John Demount and Col. John Topham, with the certificates exhibited by the towns, and that the following is a state of the said accounts, to wit:

Towns.	Deficient.	Overpaid.
	113 pounds.	0 pounds.
Charlestown .....	113	0
Richmond .....	0	740
Johnston .....	0	35
Hopkinton .....	70	0
Westerly .....	155	0
West Greenwich .....	0	105
Cranston .....	5	0
Cumberland .....	125	0
South Kingstown .....	96	0
Exeter .....	0	2
Smithfield .....	215	0
Coventry .....	0	90
Glocester .....	0	280
North Providence .....	0	140
Scituate .....	0	334
Foster .....	0	29
Warren .....	783	0
Providence .....	12,420	0
North Kingstown .....	0	750
Warwick .....	3,421	0
East Greenwich .....	2,218	0
Barrington .....	213	0
Newport .....	4,830	0
Portsmouth .....	1,023	0
Middletown .....	381	0
Jamestown .....	355	0
Tiverton .....	2,845	0
Little Compton .....	2,074	0
Bristol .....	1,760	0

ROBERT STANTON,  
JOSEPH STANTON, JR.,  
SAMUEL J. POTTER.

Whereupon, it is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby, accepted; and that the towns reported delinquent be called upon to produce certificates,

at the next session of this Assembly, of their having furnished the proportion of beef respectively assigned them; and that in default thereof, they shall pay the money required by the acts apportioning the beef in cases of deficiency.

Whereas, the following report was laid before this Assembly, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly relative to the valuation of the several towns.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed to apportion a tax upon the respective towns, have agreed to value the several towns according to the sums set against them in the underwritten estimate, and settled the tax accordingly.

Which is submitted by your humble servants.

WILLIAM RICHMOND,  
Chairman of the Committee.

Providence, February 8, 1782.

Counties.	Towns.	Value of Towns.	Total of Ratable Property.
Newport .....	Newport .....	£153,000	
	Portsmouth .....	55,000	
	Jamestown .....	20,000	
	Middletown .....	34,000	
	Tiverton .....	110,500	
Providence .....	Little Compton....	89,300	£461,800
	Providence .....	217,000	
	Smithfield.....	200,000	
	Scituate.....	107,000	
	Glocester.....	158,000	
	Cumberland .....	90,832	
	Cranston .....	123,340	
	Johnston .....	64,200	
	North Providence..	45,874	
	Foster .. ....	76,000	
Washington.....	Westerly.....	97,000	1,082,246
	North Kingstown..	148,650	
	South Kingstown..	292,300	
	Charlestown .....	81,300	
	Richmond .. ....	70,360	
	Hopkinton .. ....	91,000	
	Exeter .. ....	102,870	
Bristol.....	Bristol .. ....	65,240	883,480
	Warren .. ....	39,000	
	Barrington.....	30,720	
Kent .....	Warwick .. ....	175,100	134,960
	East Greenwich..	79,600	
	West Greenwich..	73,300	
	Coventry .. ....	100,000	
			428,000
			Tot. val., £2,990,486

And the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby accepted; and that the estimate therein made be considered as the value of the respective towns, whereby to assess the taxes ordered at the present session.

It is voted and resolved, that the report of the committee appointed at this session, for proportioning the taxes ordered to be assessed upon the respective towns at this session, be accepted; that an act be drawn, agreeable to a resolution of this Assembly, for assessing the sum of twelve thousand pounds, as a state tax, to be paid into the general treasury within six months, and a Continental tax of six thousand pounds, to be paid by the 1st day of April next.

An Act to prevent the counterfeiting bank notes, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

[See printed Schedule for this act at length.]

It is voted and resolved, that an account of the number of families and persons in this state be immediately taken; that the number of families of whites, Indians and blacks, both male and female, be specified in distinct columns; that the number under the age of sixteen, the number above sixteen and not exceeding twenty-one, the number above twenty-one and not exceeding fifty, and the number above fifty years of age, be particularly ascertained; and that the persons whose names are set down in the subsequent list be, and they are hereby, appointed to take the said account in their respective towns, to wit:

Newport, Mr. John Townsend; Providence, Mr. Benjamin Hoppin; Portsmouth, Mr. William Anthony; Warwick, Mr. Charles Holden; Westerly, Mr. Thomas Noyes; North Kingstown, Mr. William Hammond; South Kingstown, Mr. Paris Gardner; East Greenwich, Mr. Archibald Crary; Jamestown, Mr. John Weeden; Smithfield, Mr. Luke Arnold; Scituate, Mr. Stephen Kimball; Gloucester, Mr. Amos

Winsor; Charlestown, Mr. Peleg Lewis; West Greenwich, Mr. Samuel Hopkins, Jr.; Coventry, Mr. Stephen Potter; Exeter, Mr. Robert Reynolds (son of George); Middletown, Mr. Oliver Durfee; Bristol, Mr. Richard Smith; Tiverton, Mr. Benjamin Howland; Little Compton, Mr. Philip Taylor; Warren, Mr. James Miller; Cumberland, Mr. Jotham Carpenter; Richmond, Mr. Robert Stanton; Cranston, Mr. Nehemiah Knight; Hopkinton, Mr. George Thurston, Jr.; Johnston, Mr. Joseph Borden, Jr.; North Providence, Mr. Hope Angell; Barrington, Mr. Thomas Allen; Foster, Mr. Jonathan Hopkins, Jr.

It is further voted and resolved, that in case any of the above named persons shall refuse, or by any casualty be rendered unable to serve, then the deputies in the respective towns be, and they are hereby, empowered to appoint others in their stead; that the persons named in the foregoing list, or those who may be appointed in their stead, as aforesaid, take an oath before they proceed on the said business, to take a just and true account of the families and persons, agreeable to this act; and that the said persons be paid for their services by their respective towns.

And it is further resolved, that the secretary forthwith transmit a copy hereof, together with a proper roll, with ruled columns to take the numbers, to the town clerks of the respective towns, to be by them delivered to the persons who are or shall be appointed to take the said account, that a return thereof may be made to this Assembly at their next session.

It is voted and resolved, that Gideon Mumford, Archibald Crary and Adam Comstock, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to make inquiry into the sums of money that are justly due for clothing to several officers that were discharged from Col. Archibald Crary's regiment, in the year 1779, and make report to the next session of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Col. Archibald Crary be,

and he is hereby appointed to inquire into all the deficiencies, in each respective town, of the men apportioned unto them to be raised in this state, either in the Continental or state's battalions, and that he make report thereof unto this Assembly at next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee heretofore appointed to sell the confiscated estates, proceed to sell the same at public vendue, for gold and silver only, saving and excepting the estates which are pledged for the redemption of the lawful money bills which were emitted by this state in June, 1780, and of the commissary of purchases certificates, which said estates are to be sold for gold or silver, or said bills or certificates; that they notify the same accordingly in the public newspapers; and if the said committee cannot sell the same for or near the value, that then the committee appointed to lease said estates rent them out at the expiration of their respective leases, upon the best terms they can.

An Act for granting and apportioning a tax of twelve thousand pounds, in silver or gold, upon the inhabitants of this state.

[For act at length, see Schedule.]

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer issue his warrants of distress against the town treasurers of the respective towns who shall be deficient in paying into the general treasury, by the 15th day of March next, this state's quota of the new Continental emission, ordered to be paid into the general treasury in December last, which warrants shall be returnable in fourteen days from their date.

An Act for granting and apportioning a tax of six thousand pounds, in silver or gold, upon the inhabitants of this state, for supplying the Continental treasury.

[For this act in full, see Schedule.]

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Joseph Brown, Theodore Foster and Welcome Arnold, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to revise, correct and amend the laws of this state, with respect to the mode of the assessors ascertaining the value of ratable property, in assessing the taxes upon the individuals of this state, and for the redress of persons who shall be aggrieved in taxation, and that they report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the draft of a letter to the secretary at war of the United States, presented to this Assembly, be approved; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to cause a fair copy thereof to be made, and sign and transmit the same as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Joseph Brown, Welcome Arnold and Rouse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft a letter to the delegates of this state in Congress, respecting the proportion of the Continental tax laid upon this state, and inform them that this state conceives it greatly beyond their proportion, and of the inability of the state to comply with the requisition; that the said delegates be directed to endeavor to get the same lessened; that they also inform the delegates how far this state hath complied with the aforesaid requisition; and that the same be signed by His Excellency the Governor, if he shall approve thereof, and transmitted to said delegates.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
William Bradford, for medicine and attendance on Chas. Scott, a wounded soldier.....	16 16 6
Dr. Thomas Truman, for attendance on sick soldiers.....	5 12 6
John Hoppin, keeper of Providence jail, for board of deserters.....	10 14 11
Samuel Smith, for provisions furnished troops in East Greenwich.....	31 4 2
John Russell, keeper of the magazine guard in Providence.....	7 2 6

	£ s. d.
Nicholas Power, for match-rope for the Providence artillery .....	8 16 3
Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney, for one month's pay and a half of his battalion.....	1,989 13 0
Elizabeth Brown, whose husband, Obadiah Brown, was killed in the battle upon Rhode Island.....	15 0 0
Dr. Isaac Senter, for medicine, attendance and boarding "our people brought to Newport from the prison-ships at New York,".....	167 15 11
Dr. Jonathan Arnold, for hospital stores, medicine and attendance.....	39 7 11
Dr. Jonathan Arnold, for medicines and attendance upon sick soldiers landed under a flag from New York at Pawtuxet.....	39 8 8
William Channing, for provisions for the Rhode Island troops at Newport.....	81 19 2
Town of Westerly, for doctor's bill and other necessaries for sick prisoners landed at Westerly, from New York.....	41 1 1
Brig. Gen. Stanton, for pay of express riders.....	10 10 0
Zebedee Hunt, for supplies to sick prisoners landed at Pawtuxet.....	17 14 5
Capt. Henry Dayton, for pay-roll of his company.....	196 0 4
" " " " " for December.....	280 6 11
Jonathan Chadwick, for attendance on sick prisoners.....	15 0 0
Capt. Isaac Cooke, for pay-abstract of his company, September, 1779....	69 6 6
Capt. Benjamin Borden, do. do. May, 1779.....	44 12 6
Lieut. Philip Corey, do. do. October, 1779.....	37 0 8
Capt. Richard Durfee, do. do. July and August, 1779.....	158 16 3
Lieut. Col. Stephen Kimball, pay-abstract of his regiment, July, 1781...	1,597 11 7
Lieut. Col. Lemuel Bailey, do. do. September, 1781.....	1,496 4 1
Lieut. Col. Thomas Tillinghast, do. do. August, 1781.....	1,252 4 3
Lieut. Col. Christopher Olney, do. do. October, 1781.....	1,342 6 1
Captain General's cavaliers, do. do. July, 1781.....	12 16 0
do. do. do. do. October, 1781.....	23 16 0
Capt. Benjamin Borden, do. do. September and October, 1779....	162 9 4
Capt. Thomas Allen, do. do. November, 1781.....	73 6 11
Col. Jeremiah Olney, for balances due his regiment.....	558 14 8
Joshua Hacker, for entertainment given to Indian chiefs, by order of the General Assembly.....	30 18 0
To pay charter parties of vessels and wages of seamen employed in transporting provisions to Chesapeake Bay, by order of General Washington.....	241 4 4
Charles Scott, one of the state militia, for his wound.....	\$100 00
Col. Jeremiah Olney, for balance of pay due the Light Infantry of the Rhode Island Continental regiment.....	1,414 00

God save the United States of America.

*General Washington to Governor Greene.*

[Circular.]

Philadelphia, January, 1782.

Sir:—Although it may be somewhat out of my province to address your Excellency on a subject not immediately of a military nature, yet I consider it so nearly connected with, and so essential to, the operations under my direction, that I flatter myself my interference will not be deemed impertinent.

Upon applying to the superintendent of finance, to know how far I might depend upon him for the pay, feeding and clothing of the army for the current year, and for the sums necessary to put it and keep it in motion, he very candidly laid open to me the situation of our moneyed affairs, and convinced me that, although the assistance we had derived from abroad were considerable, yet they would be by no means adequate to our expenses. He informed me, further, that to make up this deficiency the states had been called upon, by Congress, for eight millions of dollars for the service of the year 1782, and showed me the copy of a circular letter from himself to the several legislatures, in which he had so fully and clearly pointed out the necessity of a compliance with the requisition, that it is needless for me to say more on that head than that I entirely concur with him in opinion, so far as he has gone into the matter. But there are other reasons not so well known to him as they are to me, as having come under my immediate observation, and which, therefore, I shall take the liberty to mention.

Your Excellency cannot but remember the ferment into which the whole army was thrown, twelve months ago, for want of pay, and a regular supply of clothing and provisions; and with how much difficulty they were brought into temper by a partial supply of the two first, and a promise of more regular supplies of all in future. Those promises the soldiery now begin to claim; and although we shall be able to satisfy them tolerably in respect to clothing, and perfectly in regard to provision, (if the financier is enabled to comply with his contracts,) yet there is no prospect of obtaining pay until a part of the money required of the states can be brought into the public treasury. You cannot conceive the uneasiness which arises from the total want of so essential an article as money, and the real difficulties in which the officers in particular are involved on that account. The favorable aspect of our affairs, and the hopes that matters are in a train to afford them relief, contribute to keep them quiet, but I cannot answer for the effects of a disappointment.

Enabling the financier to comply with his contracts, is a matter of the utmost consequence. The very existence of the army depends upon it. Should he fail in his payments, the contract ceases, and there is no alternative left but to disband or live upon the seizure of the neighboring property. The saving to the public by feeding an army by contract, is too well known to need any illustration, and that alone ought to be a sufficient inducement to the states to find the means of adhering to it.

It will perhaps be urged that the sum called for is immense, and beyond the ability of the country to pay. There is one plain answer to that objection, should it be made. It is, that if the war is carried on, a certain expense must be incurred, and that such expense must be drawn from the people, either by a partial, cruel, and I may say illegal, seizure of that property which lays most convenient to the army, or by a regular and equitable tax in money or specific articles. Money, if it can be procured, is to be preferred, because it is neither liable to waste, nor is it expensive in the mode of collection or transportation; whereas, I think I may venture to say that a great proportion of the specific articles have been wasted after the people have furnished them, and that the transportation alone of what have reached the army, has, in numberless instances, cost more than the value of the articles themselves.

To bring this war to a speedy and happy conclusion, must be the present wish of every lover of his country; and sure I am that no means are so likely to effect these, as vigorous preparations for another campaign.

Whether, then, we consult our true interest, substantial economy, or sound policy, we shall find that relaxation and languor are, of all things, to be avoided. Conduct of that kind on our part, will produce fresh hopes and new exertions on that of the enemy, whereby the war, which has already held beyond the general expectation, may be

protracted to such a length that the people, groaning under the burthen of it, and despairing of success, may think any change for the better.

I will close with a request that your Excellency will be good enough to take the first opportunity of laying these my sentiments before the legislature of your state. From the attention which they have ever been pleased to pay to any former requisitions or representations of mine, I am encouraged to hope that the present, which is equally important with any I have ever made, will meet with a favorable reception.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

P. S. The return of troops called for by resolve of the 10th of December, is collecting, and will be forwarded very soon. The remote situation of some of the corps has made it a tedious business, but such is the nature of it that an accurate return cannot be digested until the returns of all the legionary corps and those of artillery are obtained, that credit may be given for the men serving in them.

G. W.

*General Washington to Governor Greene.*

Head-Quarters, Philadelphia, January 31, 1782.

Sir:—I have the honor of transmitting herewith accurate returns of the number of men now actually in service from your state, in order that measures may be taken for completing the regiments to the full establishment, agreeably to the resolution of Congress, of the 10th of December. I cannot omit so favorable an opportunity of expressing my sentiments on that subject, to your Excellency, and of entreating, in the most earnest manner, that there may be a speedy, pointed and effectual compliance with those requisitions.

It will, I flatter myself, be unnecessary to recapitulate all the arguments I made use of in the circular letter I had the honor to address to the governors of the several states, at the close of the campaign of 1780; in which, it must be remembered, I took the liberty to urge, from the knowledge I had of our affairs, and a series of experience, the policy, the expediency, the necessity, of recruiting the army, as the only probable means of bringing the war to a speedy and happy conclusion. If those arguments had any influence at that time; if the consequent exertions were crowned with any success; if the present crisis exhibits new and more forcible inducements for still greater efforts; let me point your Excellency to these considerations, and especially let me recommend, in the warmest terms, that all the fruits of the successes that have been obtained the last campaign, may not be thrown away by an inglorious winter of languor and inactivity.

However, at this advanced stage of the war, it might seem to be an insult upon the understanding, to suppose a long train of reasoning necessary to prove that a respectable force in the field is essential to the establishment of our liberties and independence. Yet, as I am apprehensive the prosperous issue of the combined operation in Virginia may have (as is too common in such cases,) the pernicious tendency of lulling the country into a lethargy of inactivity and security, and as I feel my own reputation, as well as the interest, the honor, the glory and happiness of my country intimately concerned in the event, I will ask the indulgence to speak the more freely on those accounts, and to make some of the observations which the present moment seems to suggest;—that the broken and perplexed state of the enemy's affairs, and the successes of the last campaign on our part, ought to be a powerful incitement to vigorous preparations for the next; that, unless we exert ourselves strenuously to profit by these successes, we shall not only lose all the solid advantages that might be derived

from them, but we shall become contemptible in our own eyes, in the eyes of our enemy, in the opinion of posterity, and even in the estimation of the whole world, which will consider us as a nation unworthy of prosperity, because we know not how to make a right use of it;—that, although we cannot, by the best concerted plans, absolutely command success; although the race is not always to the swift, or the battle to the strong, yet, without presumptuously waiting for miracles to be wrought in our favor, it is our *indispensable duty*, with the deepest gratitude to Heaven for the past, and humble confidence in its smiles on our future operations, to make use of all the means in our power for our defence and security; that this period is particularly important, because no circumstances since the commencement of the war have been so favorable to the recruiting service as the present, and because it is to be presumed, from the increase of population and the brilliant prospects before us, it is actually in our power to complete the army before the opening of the campaign;—that, however flattering these prospects may be, much still remains to be done, which cannot probably be effected unless the army is recruited to the establishment; and consequently the continuance or termination of the war seems principally to rest in the vigor and decision of the states in this interesting point;—and finally, that it is our first object of policy, under every supposable or possible case, to have a powerful army early in the field; for we must suppose the enemy are either disposed “to prosecute the war,” or “enter into a negotiation for peace.” (There is no other alternative.) On the former supposition, a respectable army becomes necessary, to counteract the enemy, and to prevent the accumulating expenses of a lingering war; on the latter, nothing but a decidedly superior force can enable us boldly to claim our rights, and dictate the law at the pacification. So that whatever the disposition of the enemy may be, it is evidently our only interest and economy to act liberally, and exert ourselves greatly during the present winter, to cut off at once all the expenses of the war by putting a period to it.

And soon might that day arrive; soon might we hope to enjoy all the blessings of peace, if we could see again the same animation in the cause of our country inspire every breast, the same passion for freedom and military glory impel our youths to the field, and the same disinterested patriotism pervade every rank of men, as was conspicuous at the commencement of this glorious revolution. And I am persuaded only some great occasion was wanting,—such as the present moment exhibits,—to re-kindle the latent sparks of that patriotic fire into a generous flame,—to rouse again the unconquerable spirit of liberty, which has sometimes seemed to slumber for awhile, into the full vigor of action.

I cannot now conclude this letter without expressing my full expectation that the several states, animated with the noblest principles, and convinced of the policy of complying faithfully with the requisitions, will be only emulous which shall be foremost in furnishing its quota of men; that the calculation of the numbers wanted to fill the deficiency, may be so ample as (allowing for all the casualties and deductions,) will be sufficient certainly to complete the battalions, that the measures for this purpose may be so explicit, pointed and energetic, as will inevitably furnish the recruits in season; and that such checks may be established to prevent impositions as to the quality of the men, that no recruits may be accepted but those who are in fact able-bodied and effective; should any of a different description be sent to the army, they must be rejected, the expenses thrown away, and the service injured, though others are required to fill their places; for it is only deceiving ourselves with having a nominal instead of a real force, and consuming the public provisions and clothing to no effect, by attempting to impose decrepid and improper men or boys upon us as soldiers.

The returns before alluded to, being but this moment collected, I regret that it was

not possible they should have been forwarded sooner. To prevent miscarriage or delay, in so important a communication, I have committed them to Lieut. Col. Olney, who will have the honor of delivering these dispatches, and explaining my ideas very perfectly. As he is charged solely with this business, he will return as soon as it is negotiated; but he is instructed to wait until he can bear such official accounts from your Excellency to me, as will fully inform me what aid may be absolutely relied upon from your state, which, in conjunction with the other reports of a similar nature, must serve as a basis on which we may build our final plans and arrangements for the ensuing campaign.

I have the honor to be, with great esteem and regard,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Providence, on the last Monday in February, 1782.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

Whereas, the deputies of the town of Newport have represented unto this Assembly, that Mr. Samuel Carr, of Exeter, obtained a judgment and execution against Mr. John Townsend, of Newport, as town treasurer of said town; that the inability of the town was such that they could not raise the money to discharge the same, and the said town treasurer was committed to gaol, and there remains; and that detaining the said town treasurer in gaol, will be extremely detrimental to the town of Newport, and of no advantage to the said Samuel Carr;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Newport liberate the said John Townsend, as town treasurer, and suffer him to go at large until the next session of this Assembly; and that in the meantime the said Samuel Carr be notified to appear at the next session, to shew cause, if any he hath, why he should not be in the same situation as the other creditors of the said town.

Whereas, Mrs. Eunice Hazard, of Cranston, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that she is the wife of Thomas Hazard, late of Narragansett, now a refugee in New York ; that the said Thomas Hazard left her three years ago in a condition almost helpless, with seven young children, one of them at the breast, and the rest unable to subsist themselves ; and that from that time to this, she has encountered many difficulties in bringing up and supporting the said children, and hath at length exhausted all the resources in her power, and expended not only what remained in her hands of her said husband's effects, but also nearly the whole of what came to her particular use from the estate of her late honored father ; and thereupon she prayed this Assembly to take her unhappy case under consideration, and extend unto her and her children such grace and favor as may seem meet, and in particular to grant her that house and lot of land lying in Newport, which was her said husband's late estate ; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that this petition be referred to the next session of this Assembly, then to be heard.

It is further voted and resolved, that William Channing, Esq., be, and he is hereby, required and directed to pay unto the aforesaid Eunice Hazard the amount of the rents for the year past of the house and estate which did belong unto the said Thomas Hazard, lying in Newport, as soon as he shall receive the same.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Nathan Gardner, of South Kingstown, be, and he is hereby, permitted to go upon the island of New Shoreham, in order to settle his affairs upon the said island, relative to his estate there, and return ; and that he go and return under the inspection of Rouse J. Helme, Esq.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. John Brown, Welcome Arnold and Charles Keen, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into and ascertain what

ought to be allowed to the officers and soldiers who are wounded in this state's service, when they respectively apply.

Whereas, there are a number of soldiers belonging to this state's continental regiment now lurking about the country, who have deserted from the same;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that a reward of ten pounds, silver money, for each deserter, be paid to any person who shall apprehend any of the said deserters, and deliver them to any officer belonging to the said regiment, or properly secure them in any gaol within this state; and that thereupon His Excellency the Governor, and His Honor the Deputy Governor be, and they are hereby, severally empowered, upon due and ample proof being made that any of the said deserters are apprehended and secured, to give an order on the general treasurer for the payment of the said reward; and the general treasurer is hereby directed to pay the same accordingly.

An Act for raising two hundred and fifty-nine men, to make up the full quota of this state's forces in the army of the United States.

[For this act at length, see schedule.]

An Act for preventing frauds in the recruiting service.

Whereas, great frauds have been committed, and the recruiting service greatly injured, by designing persons engaging recruits for the Continental service, whereby they were enabled to receive the bounties, and to convert the whole, or the greater part thereof, to their own use; for the prevention whereof, in future,—

Be it enacted by the General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that no person who is not an officer in the Continental service, or appointed by this Assembly or any town within this state, to engage recruits, shall in future contract or agree with any person to enlist into the Continental service, in the battalions belonging to this or either of the United States, upon the penalty of ninety pounds, lawful money, to be recovered for the use of this state, by bill, plaint or information, in any court of record within this state; provided that nothing herein shall extend to any person belonging to a class, and who may be employed to procure a recruit for such class.

And be it further enacted, that the officers in the Continental battalions, and all other persons, are hereby called upon to give information to lawful authority, of any

person guilty of a breach of this act, that he may be proceeded against as is herein directed.

And be it further enacted, that this act take place immediately from and after the rising of this Assembly.

Ordered, that a copy hereof be transmitted to the town clerks of the several towns, that the same may be read in the town meetings to be convened for raising the recruits ordered at this present session, that no person may plead ignorance hereof.

Whereas, information was made to this Assembly at the last session, that one Daniel Brown, who was head of a class in Tiverton, had fraudulently procured one Hathaway to enlist for the said class, by a fictitious name; and that the said Hathaway had deserted, and the said Brown had absconded; and this Assembly did order and direct the said Brown's real estate to be taken into custody by the sheriff of the county of Newport, who thereupon seized the said estate; and whereas, the said Daniel Brown hath come before this Assembly, surrendered himself up, confessed his guilt, and besought the mercy and clemency of this Assembly; and whereas, before David Howell, Esq., one of the justices of the superior court, the said Daniel Brown hath discovered a great scene of villainy, which hath been perpetrated by divers persons, and seems desirous of making every reparation in his power;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that upon the said Daniel Brown's paying into the general treasury of this state the sum of four hundred and fifty silver dollars, and all costs of seizing the said estate, that the said real estate then be discharged.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the said Daniel Brown have the liberty and advantage of collecting all the monies due from said class, in the same manner as though the said recruit had not deserted.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the said David Howell take a further examination of the said Daniel Brown, and if the said Daniel Brown shall make a fair, candid and honest confession of all the authors and perpetrators of the villainies which he hath knowledge of, that have been com-

mitted in this and the neighboring states, that the said David Howell take a recognizance of said Daniel Brown to appear before any of the courts in the four Eastern States where he may be required as a witness, and suffer him to go at large.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if it shall hereafter appear that the said Daniel Brown hath not made a full, ample and entire discovery of all the persons concerned in the said villainies, which have come to his knowledge, he shall be liable and subject to a prosecution, anything above contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

And it is further voted and resolved, that copies of the examinations and confessions of the said Daniel Brown be transmitted, by the said David Howell, to the attorney general of the commonwealth of Massachusetts.

An Act for granting and apportioning a tax of six thousand pounds, in silver or gold, upon the inhabitants of this state, for supplying the Continental treasury.

[For this act at length, see schedule.]

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins, Adam Comstock and Rouse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft a bill, and lay the same before the next session of this Assembly, to ascertain the wages and rations of the officers of the militia of this state, when they shall be called to actual service within this state.

It is voted and resolved, that Welcome Arnold and Theodore Foster, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee, with the secretary, to agree with the several printers in this state, upon the most reasonable terms, for printing the acts of Assembly.

An Act for granting and apportioning three thousand six hundred and twenty-six yards of tow-cloth, and five hundred and eighteen pair of yarn stockings, upon the inhabitants of this state, for furnishing clothing for the recruits ordered to be raised by an act passed at the present session, for filling up this state's battalion to the state's full quota of Continental troops.

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that three thousand six hundred and twenty-six yards of good, yard-wide, whitened tow-cloth, and five hundred and eighteen pair of good yarn stockings, be apportioned to the several towns within this state, in equal proportion, according to the number of recruits each town is to raise respectively, which is as followeth:

	Yards Tow-Cloth.	Stockings.
Newport .....	182	26
Portsmouth .....	70	10
Jamestown .....	28	4
Middletown .....	42	6
Tiverton .....	140	20
Little Compton .....	112	16
Providence .....	252	36
Smithfield .....	238	34
Scituate .....	140	20
Glocester .....	210	30
Cumberland .....	112	16
Cranston .....	140	20
Johnston .....	84	12
North Providence .....	56	8
Foster .....	98	14
North Kingstown .....	182	26
South Kingstown .....	308	44
Charlestown .....	98	14
Westerly .....	125	18
Richmond .....	81	12
Hopkinton .....	112	16
Exeter .....	126	18
Bristol .....	84	12
Warren .....	56	8
Barrington .....	28	4
Warwick .....	196	28
East Greenwich .....	98	14
West Greenwich .....	98	14
Coventry .....	126	18
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,626	518

It is voted and resolved, that a company to be commanded by Lieut. James Miller, and Ensign Wm. Bliss, Jr., to consist of three sergeants, three corporals, one drummer, one fifer, and forty-five privates, be raised within this state, to do duty on the island of Rhode Island, for the space of nine months.

from the 1st day of April next, unless sooner discharged by the General Assembly; and that they be allowed the same pay, wages and rations, as are allowed officers and soldiers of the same rank in the Continental army.

And it is further voted and resolved, that so many of the men now doing duty within this state under the command of Capt. Henry Dayton, as exceed the number above ordered, be by him dismissed; and that the said Henry Dayton, Lieut. John Miller and Ensign Stone, be permitted to retire from the service.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to appoint suitable persons to issue provisions to the recruits now ordered to be raised in this state for the Continental service, and to appoint the places at which the same shall be delivered between this state and the North River; that the salted provisions now in this state, belonging to the continent, be delivered to said recruits, and that so much fresh meat and bread be purchased as shall be necessary for their use; and that the said Jabez Bowen be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw a sum not exceeding two hundred pounds, silver money, for the purpose aforesaid, out of the general treasury.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said Jabez Bowen retain the guard in service now employed to guard the magazine in Providence, until relieved by the Continental recruits.

And it is further voted and resolved, that Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney be, and he is hereby, appointed, with the advice of the said Jabez Bowen, to purchase two hundred and fifty-nine knapsacks, and one hundred and eighty leather caps, for the use of the recruits now ordered to be raised as aforesaid; and that the accounts be laid before this Assembly, at the next session, that orders may be given for the payment thereof, out of the Continental tax ordered at the present session.

An Act to prevent desertion.

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that if any non-commissioned officer or soldier, already enlisted, or who may be hereafter enlisted into the service of the United States, towards the quota of this state, shall desert the service, such non-commissioned officer or soldier shall forfeit all his estate, both real and personal, to and for the use of this state, and shall ever after be incapable of taking, within the same, any estate, real or personal, by will, testament, descent or distribution; and shall also be incapable of holding any office, civil or military.

Whereas, it is absolutely necessary that regular and punctual supplies of money be made for the better maintaining and supplying the army, and of course the duty of every citizen cheerfully to exert themselves to pay their taxes punctually, as well as of the several collectors to use their greatest diligence in collecting and paying the same; and whereas, it appears that several collectors of taxes, regardless of the public good, have been very negligent, and in many instances use great partiality in collecting the same;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that each and every collector of taxes in this state, who through indolence in duty, or any neglect whatever on his or their part, shall suffer the town treasurer of the town to which he belongs to be committed to gaol on any tax committed to him to collect, shall be incapable of being chosen a collector of the next tax which shall be assessed after such neglect, and be liable to such prosecution as by law they are otherwise liable.

Whereas, it appears unto this Assembly, that some of the classes, to wit: one in Smithfield, seven in Scituate and Foster, two in North Kingstown, four in South Kingstown, one in Hopkinton, seven in Exeter, one in Warwick, two in West Greenwich, and two in Coventry, have not procured recruits to serve three years, or during the war, in the army of the United States, pursuant to an act of the General Assembly, made and passed in November, 1780, nor paid into the general treasury the sum of ninety pounds, silver

money, in lieu thereof, pursuant to an act made in May last;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that unless the money due from the said classes shall be paid into the general treasury within three months from the rising of this Assembly, that the general treasurer shall, at the expiration of that time, immediately issue his warrants against the collectors of the respective towns aforesaid, or the sheriffs or their deputies, who have received the assessments upon the said classes to collect, in the same manner as warrants are issued against the town treasurers in cases of delinquency of payment of state taxes.

And whereas, Andrew Craige, of Coventry, was heretofore, by an act of this Assembly, required to procure a recruit for one of the classes in the said town, which he has not done;—

It is further voted and resolved, that in case he shall not pay the said sum of ninety pounds, silver money, into the general treasury, within the time limited as aforesaid, the sheriff of the county of Kent shall sell at vendue, after ten days public notice being thereof given, so much of the real estate of the said Andrew Craige, now in his custody, as will discharge the aforesaid sum, and all lawful costs; that a deed by the said sheriff given shall be valid for vesting in and conveying unto the purchaser all the right and title of the said Andrew Craige to the same; and that a warrant issue for ninety pounds, silver money only, and all lawful costs, against the collector of the town of Coventry.

And as the town of Gloucester hath not classed the men apportioned to the said town,—

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer issue his warrant against the town treasurer of that town, in case the money due to the state for their delinquency be not paid within the time aforesaid.

And as one recruit deficient in the said town of Gloucester,

ter was transferred from that town to a class in the town of Scituate, pursuant to an act of this Assembly heretofore passed,—

It is further voted and resolved, that the town treasurer of said town shall have the same power and authority for collecting the money due for procuring the said recruit as by law is provided in case of one or more individuals having advanced money for enlisting a recruit in their respective classes.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the committees of the respective towns, deficient as aforesaid, make a return to the general treasurer within the time aforesaid, of the names of the sheriffs, their deputies or collectors, who received the assessments on said classes, that in such cases the general treasurer may issue his warrant against such committees in manner as aforesaid.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£	s.	d.
Amey Burdick, whose husband was killed in Sullivan's expedition.....	15	0	0
George Lawton, a wounded soldier.....	15	0	0
Town of Little Compton, for medicines and attendance on sick prisoners brought from Halifax in a flag .....	50	9	6
James Sweet, for passage of soldiers, East Greenwich to Newport.....	12	10	0
Nehemiah Sweet, for supporting sick prisoners brought from New York in a flag.....	15	5	1
Caleb Harris, for surveying farms belonging to the state.....	11	15	10
Wing Spooner, for pay of guard at East Greenwich, October, 1779.....	6	10	0

God save the United States of America.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Newport, on the first Wednesday in May, 1782.*

The following named officers, declared elected, were duly engaged:

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

#### ASSISTANTS.

John Innes Clark, Esq.,  
Thomas Wells, Esq.,  
Daniel Manton, Esq.,  
Joseph Brown, Esq.,  
Gideon Mumford, Esq.,

Sylvester Gardner, Esq.,  
Enoch Hazard, Esq.,  
Thomas Hazard, Esq.,  
John Cooke, Esq.,  
Daniel Owen, Esq.

#### DEPUTIES.

*Newport.*  
Thomas Rumreill, Esq.,  
Gideon Wanton, Esq.,  
Mr. Thomas Freebody,  
James Carpenter, Esq.,  
Henry Sherburne, Esq.,  
Mr. Nicholas Taylor.

*Providence.*  
Welcome Arnold, Esq.,  
John Smith, Esq.,  
Mr. John Brown,  
William Barton, Esq.

*Portsmouth.*  
John Thurston, Esq.,

Mr. Alexander Thomas,  
Mr. William Anthony, Jr.,  
Mr. Robert Lawton.

*Warwick.*  
John Warner, Esq.,  
Mr. Thomas Remington,  
James Arnold, Esq.,  
Mr. William Potter.

*Westerly.*  
Joseph Noyes, Esq.,  
Edward Bliven, Esq.  
*North Kingstown.*  
William Hammond, Esq.,  
Nathan Brown, Esq.

*South Kingstown.*

Mr. Samuel J. Potter,  
Rouse J. Helme, Esq.

*East Greenwich.*

Archibald Crary, Esq.,  
Benjamin Tillinghast, Esq.

*Jamesstown.*

Mr. John Weeden,  
Mr. John Howland.

*Smithfield.*

Mr. William Waterman,  
Peleg Arnold, Esq.

*Scituate.*

William Rhodes, Esq.,  
Rufus Hopkins, Esq.

*Glocester.*

John Smith, Esq.,  
Mr. Israel Cooke.

*Charlestown.*

Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq.,  
Gideon Hoxsie, Esq.

*West Greenwich.*

Thomas Gorton, Esq.,  
Jonathan Comstock, Esq.

*Coventry.*

William Burlingame, Esq.,  
Isaac Johnson, Esq.

*Exeter.*

Pardon Tillinghast, Esq.,  
Mr. Nicholas Gardner, Jr.

*Middletown.*

Oliver Durfee, Esq.,  
Mr. John Manchester.

*Bristol.*

William Bradford, Esq.,  
Nathaniel Fales, Esq.

*Tiverton.*

Mr. Nathaniel Briggs,  
Mr. Benjamin Howland.

*Little Compton.*

William Richmond, Esq.,  
Mr. Edward Simmons.

*Warren.*

Nathan Miller, Esq.,  
John Child, Esq.

*Cumberland.*

John Dexter, Esq.,  
James Lovett, Esq.

*Richmond.*

Mr. Joseph Tefft,  
Mr. Jonathan Maxson.

*Cranston.*

Mr. Richard Searle,  
Mr. William Field, Jr.

*Hopkinton.*

Abel Tanner, Esq.,  
George Thurston, Esq.

*Johnston.*

Abraham Belknap, Esq.,  
John Waterman, Esq.

*North Providence.*

Esek Hopkins, Esq.,  
John Jenckes, Esq.

*Barrington.*

Mr. Vial Allen,  
Samuel Allen, Esq.

*Foster.*

Mr. John Williams,  
Mr. Jonathan Hopkins, Jr.

The Hon. William Bradford, Esq., speaker; and Benjamin Bourne, Esq., clerk.

Henry Ward, Esq., secretary.

William Channing, Esq., attorney general.

Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer.

DELEGATES TO REPRESENT THE STATE IN CONGRESS.

The Honorable John Collins, Esq.

The Honorable Ezekiel Cornell, Esq.

The Honorable Jonathan Arnold, Esq.

The Honorable David Howell, Esq.

It is voted and resolved, that Samuel Ward, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed secretary *pro tempore*.

It is voted and resolved, that such freemen of the town of Newport, who have not signed the test required by law, to qualify them to vote in town meeting for the choice of officers, have liberty to make application to this Assembly this afternoon, between the hours of three and five o'clock, for liberty to sign the said test; and such whose characters stand fair, as friends to the liberties and independence of this country, will be permitted to subscribe the same, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Both houses being resolved into a grand committee, made choice of the following officers, to wit:

JUSTICES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

Paul Mumford, Esq., chief; Peter Phillips, Esq., second; Thomas Tillinghast, Esq., third; Pardon Gray, Esq., fourth; Jonathan Jenckes, Esq., fifth.

JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR NEWPORT COUNTY.

William Richmond, Esq., chief; William Taggart, Esq., second; Christopher Ellery, Esq., third; Timothy Waterhouse, Esq., fourth; Thomas Shearman, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR PROVIDENCE COUNTY.

Richard Steer, Esq., chief; Jeremiah Whipple, Esq., second; Caleb Aldrich, Esq., third; Caleb Fisk, Esq., fourth; Caleb Harris, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Samuel Babcock, Esq., chief; Edward Perry, Esq., second; Abel Tanner, Esq., third; Robert Potter, Esq., fourth; Sylvester Gardner, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR BRISTOL COUNTY.

Nathaniel Fales, Esq., chief; John Child, Esq., second; Joseph Reynolds, Esq., third; Samuel Allen, Esq., fourth; William Turner Miller, Esq., fifth.

## JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR KENT COUNTY.

Philip Greene, Esq., chief; James Arnold, Esq., second; Benj. Tillinghast, Esq., third; Aaron Bowen, Esq., fourth; Rufus Spencer, Esq., fifth.

## JUDGE OF THE COURT OF ADMIRALTY.

John Foster, Esq., judge of the court of admiralty, erected for the trial of prize causes within and throughout the state.

## SHERIFFS OF THE SEVERAL COUNTIES.

<i>Newport County.</i>	<i>Bristol County.</i>
William Davis, Esq.	Richard Smith, Esq.
<i>Providence County.</i>	<i>Kent County.</i>
John Beverly, Esq.	Richard Fry, Esq.
<i>Washington County.</i>	
Beriah Brown, Esq.	

Henry Ward, Esq., intendant of trade for the port of Providence.

William Taggart, Esq., intendant of trade for the port of Newport.

FIELD OFFICERS FOR THE STATE IN THE SEVERAL COUNTIES.

James Mitchel Varnum, Esq., major general of the militia.

Nathan Miller, Esq., brigadier general of militia in the counties of Newport and Bristol.

Christopher Lippitt, Esq., brigadier general of militia in the county of Providence.

Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq., brigadier general of militia in the county of Washington.

Thomas Holden, Esq., brigadier general of militia in the county of Kent.

Christopher Olney, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the first regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Jesse Maxson, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the first regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Lemuel Bailey, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the second regiment of militia in the county of Newport.

George Peck, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the second regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Charles Dyer, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the second regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Archibald Kasson, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the second regiment of militia in the county of Kent.

Stephen Kimball, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the third regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Thomas Potter, Jr., Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the third regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Stephen Windsor, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the fourth regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

John Whipple, Esq., major of the first regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Simon Whipple, Esq., major of the second regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

George Dorrance, Jr., Esq., major of the third regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Samuel Mays, Esq., major of the fourth regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

John Gavet, Esq., major of the first regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Jonathan Bates, Esq., major of the second regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

John Clarke, Esq., major of the third regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

William Southworth, Esq., major of the second regiment of militia in the county of Newport.

Thomas Gorton, Esq., major of the second regiment of militia in the county of Kent.

Amos Atwell, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

George Thurston, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Reuben Ballou, Esq., major of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Isaac Johnson, Esq., major of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Kent.

Archibald Crary, Esq., adjutant general of the whole militia.

Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., quartermaster general of the whole militia.

Charles Holden, Esq., commissary general of the whole militia.

Isaac Senter, Esq., physician, surgeon and purveyor general of the whole militia.

John Burton, Jr., captain, William Burton, lieutenant, and Elisha Carpenter, ensign, of the senior class company of militia in the town of Cranston.

Whereas, Thomas Arnold, formerly a captain in Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment, but now of the corps of invalids, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that he is under orders from his commanding officer to join the said corps at West Point; that he is entirely destitute of money, not having received any pay for upwards of thirty months, and thereupon he prayed this Assembly to grant him a sum of money on account of the said wages due unto him; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of sixty pounds in silver money be paid the said Thomas Arnold, out of the general treasury, and that the same be charged to the United States, on account of the pay due to him as aforesaid.

Whereas, Daniel Mowry, Jr., Esq., hath represented unto this Assembly, that while delegate in Congress, at Philadelphia, he received a sum of money, in bills of the Continental new emission, of Capt. Stephen Olney, for the use of this state's Continental battalion, which bills afterwards appeared to be deficient to the amount of two hundred dollars; and thereupon prayed relief in the premises;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Peleg Arnold, James Lovett and John Jenckes, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the said representation, and that they make report to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, several towns within this state have not raised their complete quotas of men for the Continental service, within the time prescribed by the act of this Assembly for raising the said recruits;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that such delinquent towns have liberty to complete the enlistment of their respective quotas at any time on or before the 18th instant.

Whereas, Jeremiah Olney, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of this state's Continental regiment, laid before this Assembly the following estimate, to wit:

*Estimate of the sum necessary to pay three months' wages to the officers and men of the Rhode Island regiment now in service, agreeable to a return of the 22d of February, A. D. 1782, to wit:*

1 Lieutenant Colonel Commandant, at.....	£22 10 0	per month, £67 10 0
2 Majors.....	15 0 0	each do., 90 0 0
9 Captains .....	12 0 0	" do., 324 0 0
12 Lieutenants.....	8 0 0	" do., 288 0 0
5 Ensigns.....	6 0 0	" do., 90 0 0
1 Surgeon.....	18 0 0	" do., 54 0 0
1 Surgeon's Mate.....	12 0 0	" do., 36 0 0
1 Paymaster, (additional pay,).....	6 0 0	" do., 18 0 0
1 Adjutant, " "	3 18 0	" do., 11 14 0
1 Quartermaster, " "	3 18 0	" do., 11 14 0
36 Sergeants .....	3 0 0	" do., 324 0 0
1 Drum-Major and one Fife-Major.....	3 0 0	" do., 18 0 0
16 Drummers and Fifers.....	2 4 0	" do., 105 12 0
36 Corporals .....	2 4 0	" do., 537 12 0
305 Privates .....	2 0 0	" do., 1,830 0 0
1 Sergeant at £3 per month, and seven privates at £2 each per month, serving in the commander-in-chief's guards. ....		51 0 0
		£3,557 2 0

Errors excepted.

JEREMIAH OLNEY,

Lieut. Col. Commandant Rhode Island Regiment.

Providence, April 29, A. D. 1782.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Jeremiah Olney draw out of the general treasury the said sum of three thousand five hundred and fifty-seven pounds two shillings, in silver money, (to be paid him out of the twelve thousand pounds state tax,) for the purpose of paying the said officers and men, belonging to this state's Continental battalion, three months' wages, agreeable to the said abstract, and that the same be charged to the United States.

Whereas, Jeremiah Olney, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of this state's Continental regiment, laid before this Assembly the following return, to wit:

*Return of Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney, relative to the Promotion  
of several Officers.*

Captains Thomas Cole and Stephen Olney having resigned their commissions in the Rhode Island regiment in the service of the United States, the following promotions are necessary, to wit :

Lieutenant Ebenezer Macomber to a captaincy, to take rank from the 17th day of March, A. D. 1782.

Lieutenant David Sayles to a captaincy, to take rank from the 1st day of May, A. D. 1782.

Ensign William Ennis to a lieutenancy, to take rank from the 17th day of March, A. D. 1782.

Ensign John Welch to a lieutenancy, to take rank from the 1st day of May, A. D. 1782.

JEREMIAH OLNEY,

Lieut. Col. Commandant Rhode Island Regiment.

Providence, April 29, A. D. 1782.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the aforesaid list of promotions be approved ; and that the several gentlemen therein mentioned be, and they are hereby, recommended for commissions, agreeable to the rank and dates affixed to their names.

It is voted and resolved, that the towns which are delinquent in furnishing their several apportionments of tow-cloth, stockings and blankets, for the Continental regiment belonging to this state, be allowed to complete their several quotas of the said articles at any time on or before the 18th instant.

And it is further voted and resolved, that Archibald Crary, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to purchase, on account of this state, such of the said articles as shall be deficient at the time before mentioned ; that the said Archibald Crary give certificates in payment for the several articles by him purchased, which certificates shall be received by the general treasurer and collectors of taxes in payment of the Continental tax of six thousand pounds last ordered by this Assembly ; that thirty-three blankets, purchased by His Honor the Deputy Governor, be taken out of the num-

ber to be received, for which the said Archibald Crary shall give certificates as aforesaid to the persons of whom the same were purchased; and that he exhibit his accounts of purchases made, and certificates issued, pursuant to this resolve, to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that Lieut. Col. Commandant Jeremiah Olney be, and he is hereby, empowered to hire two teams, to transport the clothing of this state's Continental regiment to camp, on the best terms he can; that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw the sum of thirty pounds, silver money, out of the general treasury, and pay the same to the said Jeremiah Olney, to be by him advanced to the persons he shall contract with for the said teams; and that the balance of the said teamsters' accounts for the said service shall be paid when certified by the said Jeremiah Olney, and laid before this Assembly.

Whereas, George Olney, Esq., of Providence, hath produced before this Assembly an order from the Hon. Robert Morris, Esq., superintendent of finance within the United States, to receive from this state all the monies which the General Assembly hath appropriated for the use of the said United States; and whereas, this Assembly hath assessed upon the estates and polls within this state two several assessments or taxes, of six thousand pounds, silver money, each, and have ordered and directed the same to be made, levied and collected, from the estates and polls as aforesaid, and to be given and paid into the loan office within this state, to and for the use of the said United States, to be disposed of by the superintendent of finance; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer and keeper of the loan office within this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to pay upon and to the said order of the superintendent of finance, from time to time, as he shall receive the same into his office, all the monies which have been given in manner and to and for the use afore-

said, and that he take receipts upon the said order for the same.

The return of the officers chosen to command the independent company of artillery in the towns of Westerly, Charlestown and Hopkinton, for the year ensuing, was read in council, and is as follows, to wit:

Augustus Stanton, captain; William Gardner, first lieutenant; Asa Crandall, second lieutenant, and John Champ-

lin, ensign.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said officers be, and they are hereby, approved.

The return of the officers chosen to command the united company of artillery in the town of Providence, for the year ensuing, was read in council, and is as follows, to wit:

Daniel Tillinghast, Esq., colonel; Levi Hall, Esq., lieuten-  
ant colonel; Robert Taylor, Esq., major; Gershom Jones,  
captain, and John Mumford, lieutenant.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said officers be, and they are hereby, approved.

The return of the officers chosen to command the com-  
pany of Pawtuxet Rangers, for the year ensuing, was read  
in council, and is as follows, to wit:

Benjamin Arnold, captain; Charles Rhodes, first lieuten-  
ant; Abner Field, second lieutenant, and Israel Arnold, en-  
sign.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said officers be, and they are hereby, approved.

Upon the petition of the members of the corporation of the Rhode Island College, preferred unto this Assembly, representing that the college edifice hath been occupied for many years as an hospital and barrack for the American and French troops, and that great damage hath been done the said building thereby; whereupon they prayed this Assem-

bly to order that the said edifice may be delivered them; that the buildings about the same, belonging to the French, may be taken down and removed from the said college lot; that such repairs as are absolutely necessary may be made at the expense of the public; and that it shall not again be appropriated as an hospital or barrack; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., Joseph Brown and John I. Clark, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, requested to cause proper and suitable barracks or hospitals to be provided in the town of Providence, for the use of the troops or mariners belonging to His Most Christian Majesty, who now occupy the said college edifice; that the said edifice be delivered up to the said corporation by the said Jabez Bowen, Joseph Brown and John I. Clark; and that such buildings as have been erected by order of the commander of the French troops, be removed at the expense of the said corporation, if they think fit.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee appointed in the different towns in this state to estimate the damages done by the enemy, in pursuance of an act of this Assembly, be, and they are hereby, empowered to proceed on and complete the said business, and that they make report to this Assembly as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that John Jenckes and John Dexter, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to sell, at public vendue, a tract of wild land lying in the town of Cumberland, of about twenty-three acres, late the estate of Richard Smith, now residing in Great Britain, but since confiscated to and for the use of this state; that the general treasurer, in behalf of the state, upon the payment of the purchase money into the treasury, be, and he is hereby, empowered to give and execute, unto the purchaser or purchasers, a good deed or deeds-poll of said land, with warranty; and that the said committee sell the said

land in such divisions, and under such conditions, as they may deem most conducive to the interest of the state.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., be, and he is hereby, requested to purchase a standard for the use of this state's Continental regiment, and exhibit an account of the expense thereof to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, Henry Sherburne, Esq., exhibited unto this Assembly an account by him charged against the state for his services in drafting the acts and orders of the General Assembly for the press, for room hire, and wood supplied; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount thereof, being forty-two pounds eleven shillings, silver money, be allowed and paid the said Henry Sherburne out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the proceedings against the classes in the town of West Greenwich, which were delinquent in raising the three years men, agreeable to an act of this Assembly for recruiting this state's Continental battalion, be postponed until the 20th day of June next, and no longer.

Whereas, by an act heretofore passed by this Assembly, in the year 1781, for raising the Continental troops for three years or during the war, the committees for classing the inhabitants in the several towns were empowered to call special courts upon the collectors for the money received by them for the class tax bills; and whereas, several of the said collectors have refused to pay unto the heads of the classes the monies by them collected, because the said class tax bills were not signed by a majority of the said committees;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that such part of the said committees for classing the inhabitants in the several towns as have signed the class tax bills, have the same power to call special courts upon the said collectors, for the

monies by them collected, as though the said class tax bills had been signed by the whole of them ; and that the court where the judgments shall be made up be, and they are hereby, empowered to cause interest to be reckoned upon the said judgments, from and after the term of three months from the time the said collectors received the said class tax bills.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. William Angell, who hath hired a farm upon New Shoreham, be permitted to go to that island, with his wife and family, and household furniture ; that he do not return to the main without liberty from this Assembly ; and that the boat which carries them on the said island, be under the inspection of Rouse J. Helme, Esq.

Upon a pay abstract exhibited unto this Assembly for a company of men stationed on Rhode Island, commanded by Lieut. James Miller, from the 1st of April to the 4th of the present month ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount thereof, being thirty-six pounds, eleven shillings and three pence, silver money, be allowed and paid unto the said James Miller, out of the general treasury, for the use of the persons whose names are contained in the said abstract, and that he pay the same accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that all business lying before this Assembly unfinished, be, and the same is hereby, referred to the next session ; that the secretary publish the acts and orders, now made and passed, by beat of drum, in the town of Providence, within ten days after the rising of this Assembly, and within thirty, send copies thereof to the sheriffs of the several counties in the state, by them to be transmitted to each town clerk in their respective counties ; and that this Assembly be, and the same is hereby, adjourned to the second Monday in June next, then to convene at Newport.

God save the United States of America.

*General Washington to Governor Greene.*

Head-Quarters, April 27th, 1782.

Sir:—Though it is by no means my opinion that the enemy will divide their force and again take possession of Rhode Island, there are some circumstances which seem to carry such an appearance.

I think it would be highly imprudent, on our part, to leave any fortifications standing on Rhode Island, which may be of any use to them in such an event. The works round Newport can, under no circumstances, be of any advantage to us, and I must therefore request your Excellency to cause them to be levelled immediately.

I am not well enough acquainted with the situation and nature of the works on Butts's Hill, to determine positively whether they ought to be destroyed or not. It appears to me, that in case the enemy should re-occupy the island, it would be important for us to have possession of that ground; but whether in such an event possession would be kept, your Excellency must determine. I have no troops to spare to garrison it. If the work is tenable, might not a small guard be kept in it, and such arrangements be made that, at the first signal of the appearance of a fleet, such a number of militia might be thrown in as to keep possession of it? Should you think this impracticable, I would wish the works to be destroyed.

I take the liberty to enclose a letter from Count Rochambeau to Mr. de Quinay, commanding the Emerald frigate, which I beg your Excellency to forward with all possible dispatch to that gentleman.

With very great regard, I have the honor to be, sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*General Washington to Governor Greene.*

Head-Quarters, 4th May, 1782.

Sir:—I find myself arrived at that period at which I hoped to have seen the battalions of the several states completed to their establishment, in conformity to the requisitions of Congress of the 19th of December last.

The enclosed returns of recruits, which I have caused to be made up to the first instant, will show how totally short of my expectations, the exertions of the states have fallen. From your state you will find that 150 recruits are supposed to have joined the army in consequence of the above requisition.

All my accounts from Europe concur in declaring that the British king and ministry are still determined to prosecute the war. It becomes, therefore, our decided duty to be prepared to meet their hostile intentions, in whatever way they are to be carried into execution; to do which our utmost exertions are now called for. You will suffer me, therefore, to entreat that if your state have any expectations from the military operations of this season, not another moment may be lost in providing for, and carrying into most effectual execution, the full completion of their battalions. It is scarcely necessary to inform you that on this expectation, all our calculations must be formed; and on this event must rest the hopes of the ensuing campaign.

My intelligence of the actual aid we may expect from our allies, is not yet so explicit as will lead me to decide absolutely on the mode of operations for this campaign. But were our expectations of support from that quarter ever so promising, yet from the negligence and languor of the states, from whence our own exertions are to spring,

I am not at this day enabled to give any assurance of our being prepared to co-operate with our allies, in any great objects, equal to their expectations or our own ability. I am sorry to acquaint your Excellency, that I have the best authority to assure you that the Court of France is much dissatisfied with this want of vigor and exertion in the states, and with that disposition which appears willing at least, if not desirous, to cast all the burthen of the American war upon them. Waving the injustice and im-policy of such a temper, (which to me appears very conspicuous,) how humiliating is the idea, that our dependence for support should be upon others, beyond that point which absolute necessity dictates! How discouraging to our allies, and how dishonorable to ourselves, must be our want of vigor and utmost exertion, at a time when, if we are not wanting to ourselves, our prospects are the fairest that our wishes could extend to.

I find, from the proceedings of the several states, that their calculations of deficiencies, formed on application to the several towns who furnish the men, are greatly different from the returns sent from the army. I forbear mentioning many reasons which might be assigned to produce this difference, and which, in my opinion, originate principally with the state, and will content myself with this one observation:—That, should the states deceive themselves in this respect, and fail to furnish the expected force in the field, they will not only cast an essential injury upon the army, but the unhappy consequences of a failure in their expectations from military operations, will reverberate upon themselves; whilst recriminations can have no effect towards alleviating our protracted misfortunes and distress.

Although money matters are not within the line of my duty, yet, as they are so intimately connected with all military operations, and being lately informed by the financier, in answer to some small requisitions upon him, that he has not yet received one penny in money from any one state, upon the requisition of Congress for the 8,000,000 dollars, whilst on the contrary some of the states are devising ways to draw from him the small sums he has been able otherwise to establish, and that he is at this time barely able to feed the army, (and that from hand to mouth.) I cannot forbear to express my apprehensions from that quarter, and to urge, with the warmth of zeal and earnestness, the most pointed and effectual attention of your state to the actual raising and collecting their proportion of the mentioned requisition. Upon the present plan of non-compliance with requisitions for men and supplies, let me seriously ask your Excellency, how it is possible for us to continue the war? How is it possible to support an army in money or recruits? To what a wretched state must we soon be reduced! How dangerous it is to suffer our affairs to run at hazard, and to depend upon contingencies! To what do the present measures tend, but to the utter ruin of that cause which we have hitherto so long and nobly supported? and to crush all the fair hopes which the present moment places before us, were we only to exert the power and abilities with which Providence has bountifully blessed this country. But if the states will not impose, or do not collect and apply taxes for support of the war, the sooner we make terms, the better. The longer we continue a feeble and ineffectual war, the greater will be our distress at the hour of submission. For my own part, I am fully convinced that without the means of execution, no officer, whoever he may be, who is placed at the head of the military department, can be answerable for the success of any plans he may propose or agree to. Upon this subject, I will only add that, from past experience and from present prospects, I am persuaded that if the states would furnish the supplies, agreeable to the late requisition, and would suffer the pay, clothing and subsistence of the army, to go through one common channel, that two-thirds of their former expenses would be saved; and many partialities, discontents and jealousies, which now subsist, would be removed and cease; and an establishment of order, regularity and harmony in our general affairs, would be expe-

rienced, which cannot arise from the present disjointed and different systems of finance adopted by separate states.

While acting in my military capacity, I am conscious of the impropriety of stepping into the line of civil polity. My anxiety for the general good, and an earnest desire to bring this long protracted war to a happy issue, when I hope to retire to that peaceful state of domestic pleasures, from which the call of my country has brought me to take an active part, and to which I most ardently wish a speedy return, I hope will furnish my excuse with your Excellency and Legislature, while I request your pardon for this trespass.

If I should have occasion for the militia of your state, the call will be sudden, and their movements must be rapid; otherwise, great expense will ensue. For these reasons, I beg leave to recall your Excellency's attention to my letter of the 5th March last, and to pray most earnestly that every previous arrangement may be taken to facilitate their march when requested.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. May 8th, 1782.—Since writing the above, I have been furnished with sundry English and New York papers, containing the last intelligence from England, with the debates in both houses of Parliament, upon several motions made respecting the American war. Least your Excellency may not have had so full a sight of these papers as I have, I take the liberty to mention that I have perused these debates with great care and attention, with a view, if possible, to penetrate their real designs; and, upon the most mature deliberation I can bestow, I am obliged to declare it as my candid opinion, that the measure in all its views, so far as it respects America, is merely delusory, having no serious intention to admit our independence upon its true principles; but is calculated to produce a change of ministers, to quiet the minds of their own people, and reconcile them to a continuance of the war, while it is meant to amuse this country with a false idea of peace, to draw us off from our connection with France, and to lull us into a state of security and inactivity; which taking place, the ministry will be left to prosecute the war in other parts of the world with greater vigor and effect.

Your Excellency will permit me, on this occasion, to observe that even if the nation and Parliament are really in earnest to obtain peace with America, it will undoubtedly be wisdom in us to meet them with great caution and circumspection; and by all means, to keep our arms firm in our hands, and instead of relaxing one iota in our exertions, rather to spring forward with redoubled vigor, that we may take advantage of every favorable opportunity, until our wishes are fully obtained. No nation yet suffered in treaty by preparing most vigorously for the field.

The industry which the enemy are using to propagate these pacific reports, appears to me a circumstance very suspicious; and the eagerness with which the people, as I am informed, are catching at them, is in my opinion equally dangerous.

Yours of the 2d instant I have received, and shall forward the earliest intelligence I can obtain upon the subject mentioned.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Newport, on the second Monday in June, 1782.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

The Assistants and Deputies the same as at the May session.

Whereas, representation hath been made to this Assembly, by Timothy Waterhouse, Esq., that his son, Dr. Benjamin Waterhouse, was captured on his passage from the Havannah to Philadelphia, and carried into New York; and that by a letter from his son, he is informed that a case of medicines, a few goods, (which he had purchased in Holland for the use of his friends,) with his baggage, had been restored to him by the enemy; and thereupon the said Timothy Waterhouse requested that permission might be granted to the said Benjamin Waterhouse to bring with him from New York, into this state, the said case of medicines, goods and baggage; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Benjamin Waterhouse be, and he hereby is, permitted to bring from New York, into this state, the said medicines, goods and baggage, in some cartel vessel, any law to the contrary hereof notwithstanding; and all persons commanding armed vessels, under commissions from the United States of America, and others, are required to permit the articles above enumerated to pass as aforesaid, without any let or hindrance whatsoever.

Whereas, the Benevolent Congregational Society, in the town of Providence, by petition represented unto this General Assembly, that the said society was incorporated by an

act of this, then colony, now state, in October, A. D. 1770, for divers laudable purposes, in said act mentioned; that the members of the said society continued in the full exercise of the powers, privileges and benefits of said incorporation until the year 1777, at which time, in consequence of the distresses of the present war, and the confusion of the times, they neglected to exercise the powers vested in them by the said act of incorporation; that the annual meetings of the said society, for the management of their affairs, as directed by law, have been since entirely discontinued; and that, in the present happy prospect of public affairs, they are desirous of re-assuming their former powers and privileges, but that from their discontinuance of the exercise thereof doubts may arise with respect to the legality of their resumption of the same, unless allowed and confirmed by this General Assembly; and have therefore prayed this General Assembly to pass an act for the purposes aforesaid; whereupon,—

It is voted and resolved, that all the privileges, rights and powers, with which the said society have been heretofore vested, be revived and continued to them, any interruption, neglect or discontinuance, notwithstanding; and that the said society be, and they are hereby, empowered to meet at said Providence, on the second Tuesday in August next, for the purpose of choosing a president, vice-president and secretary for the said society.

Whereas, John Innes Clark, Esq., late part owner of the privateer sloop Chance, which has been taken by the enemy and carried into New York, hath represented to this Assembly that the officers and men of the said privateer are now languishing in confinement at New York, and that their friends are about to procure a number of prisoners of war, of the commissary of prisoners at Boston, to send to New York in exchange for said officers and men, and requested that a flag of truce may be granted to proceed to New York, to effect said exchange;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that permission be, and hereby is, granted for a flag of truce to proceed from this state to New York, for the purpose aforesaid ; and His Excellency the Governor is requested to grant the necessary papers.

It is further voted and resolved, that if the number of prisoners which shall go in said flag shall amount to the number of thirty or upwards, the expense of sending the said flag shall be paid out of the general treasury of this state, and that the accounts thereof be laid before this Assembly for settlement.

Whereas, Messrs. William Gyles, William Finch, Jethro Briggs and John Shaw, who were appointed a committee to estimate the damages wantonly done to the inhabitants of the town of Newport, by the enemy, reported unto this Assembly an estimate thereof, amounting to one hundred and twenty-four thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight pounds, thirteen shillings and five pence, silver money ; and also presented a particular account of the losses sustained by the several individuals, making up the said amount; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby, accepted.

It is voted and resolved, that thirty pounds, silver money, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury to Messrs. William Gyles, William Finch, John Shaw and Jethro Briggs, for their services in taking an estimate of the damages done by the enemy in Newport.

Whereas, Mr. George Lawton, one of the administrators of the estate of Elizabeth Lawton, widow, late of Portsmouth, deceased, and who was relict of Daniel Lawton, late of said Portsmouth, deceased, preferred a petition to this General Assembly, setting forth that the said Elizabeth, in her lifetime, was possessed of securities for money, signed by the general treasurer of this state, to a considerable amount, and died possessed thereof intestate, leaving four children, namely, Jeremiah Lawton, Christopher Lawton, Abigail Taylor, (wife

of Reuben Taylor,) and Nathaniel Lawton, who are entitled to receive an equal share or dividend of the monies due on the said securities ; and therefore prayed that the general treasurer may be directed to pay the said monies, or to renew the said securities, giving one to each of the persons aforesigned for his respective share or dividend thereof ; which petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that upon the said heirs delivering the said securities to the general treasurer, he be, and hereby is, empowered and directed to make and execute, to each of the said heirs of the said Elizabeth, his promissory note, for the payment on demand, with interest, of the one-fourth part of the principal and interest due on the said obligations.

Whereas, Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney hath represented to this General Assembly, that the orders which have been granted on the general treasurer, in favor of his regiment, for one and an half month's pay, and also several grants to individuals of said regiment, are unpaid ; that there is no money in the treasury of the state to answer said demands ; and that he is ordered to join his regiment, which is in great want of the monies due on the said orders, and hath requested this Assembly to provide means for the payment of the orders aforesaid ; which representation and request being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he hereby is, empowered and directed to hire the sum of five hundred and five pounds, five shillings and eight pence, silver money, to be by him repaid, with interest, out of the first monies he shall receive into the general treasury ; that if the said sum cannot be procured immediately, the general treasurer take so much of the money he shall receive in payment of the tax assessed for the use of the United States, and pay the same to the said Jeremiah Olney, in payment and satisfaction of the balance due on the orders aforesaid ; and that the general treasurer replace the

monies which he shall take as aforesaid, with so much of the first monies which shall be paid into the treasury of this state on account of taxes assessed for the use of this state.

Whereas, it is represented to this Assembly, that Alexander Hopkins, John Briggs and Amos Reynolds, all of West Greenwich, are indebted for monies assessed upon them in the year 1781, as members of delinquent classes, which have not been paid, in consequence of their real and personal estates having been taken into possession of this state; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kent be empowered to make sale of so much of said estates, at public vendue, as will be sufficient to satisfy the warrants issued, and now in his hands, against the persons above named respectively, for their said delinquency, and that he pay the monies arising from the said sales into the general treasury, and make report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., and Joseph Brown, Esq., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to sell the building, and its appurtenances, erected in the town of Providence, at the expense of the state, for the manufacture of saltpetre; that the said committee call on Mr. Joseph Wilson, for the rents of the said building since he improved the same under the state; that they also agree and adjust with Mrs. Elizabeth Mathewson, who owns the land on which the said building stands, for the ground rent thereof; and that they pay the balance which may remain in their hands, after settling with the said Elizabeth Mathewson, into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that John Handy, Esq., be, and he hereby is, appointed auditor of accounts for this state.

Whereas, at the session of this Assembly held in December last, a resolution was passed, appointing Thomas Holden, Esq., chairman of the committees appointed by the

towns of Scituate and Foster, for the purpose of adjusting the debts due to and from the town of Scituate before the division thereof, and dividing the monies in the treasury of said town, and the taxes and poor thereof; and whereas, no provision is therein made, or power given, for convening the said committees, whereby the intention of the said resolution hath not yet been answered; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Thomas Holden be empowered to appoint the time and place of meeting to transact the said business, agreeable to the said resolution, and to give notice thereof to the members of the said committees; and that if any or either of them shall neglect to attend a meeting so appointed, the said Thomas Holden, with such members of the said committees as may attend, be, and they are hereby, empowered to proceed upon the business aforesaid, and complete the same, agreeable to said resolution.

It is voted and resolved, that a tax of twelve thousand pounds, in gold or silver, be levied and assessed upon the polls and estates of the inhabitants of this state, for the use of the United States, for defraying the expenses of the current year, to be paid into the general treasury of this state on or before the 1st day of October next.

It is voted and resolved, that James Mitchel Varnum and Rouse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to prepare a bill, in pursuance of the resolutions of Congress, of November 23, A. D. 1781, and January 25, A. D. 1782, relative to the infractions of the laws of nations; the establishment of a speedy mode of administering justice between the citizens of the United States and the subjects of His Most Christian Majesty; and for securing shipwrecked property; and that they make report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to write to the delegates of this state now in Congress, and urge them to use their utmost influence in

Congress to have some effectual measures adopted for the speedy discharge of the certificates which have been issued in behalf of the United States, by their quartermasters and commissaries, for services performed and articles supplied for the army of the United States; and also to provide effectually for the speedy calling in and sinking the bills of the old Continental emissions which are yet outstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to write to the state's delegates an answer to their letters relative to the exclusive claims of some states to the vacant lands in the limits of the United States; and inform them that this state conceives itself to be vested with a perfect and indisputable right, in common with her sister states, to the said lands.

And it is further voted and resolved, that this state's delegates be, and they are hereby, instructed to use their influence in Congress for a proportionate division of the said lands accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Brown, Rouse J. Helme and Benjamin Bourne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to prepare letters and bills relative to the subject of the letter from the delegates of this state to His Excellency the Governor, dated May 7, A. D. 1782; and to the letters from the secretary of foreign affairs, respecting the powers of Sir Guy Carleton for making peace between the United States and Great Britain; and the annunciation of the birth of the Dauphin of France.

Whereas, His Excellency Gen. Washington hath requested that the militia of this state may be held in the most perfect readiness to co-operate with him, whenever he shall request their assistance;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor, His Honor the Deputy Governor, and the Assistants, be, and they are hereby, empowered to convene whenever His Excellency the General shall call for the aid

of the militia, and to equip such part thereof as may be called for, and to direct and order them to march at such time, and to such place, as the General shall be pleased to direct.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to inform the delegates of this state that this General Assembly have duly considered the letter of the secretary of foreign affairs for the United States, respecting this state's boundaries, and inform them that the claims of this state, with respect to boundaries, are consigned to those which are particularly specified and described in its original charter; and that the delegates be requested to acquaint the secretary of foreign affairs with this resolution, and furnish him with a copy of the charter referred to.

Whereas, the exigencies of the state are such that the accounts due from the state, and contracted to be paid in paper money of the old Continental emission, cannot now be paid; therefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that all debts due from the state in paper money, or contracted during the circulation of paper money, previous to the 1st day of May, A. D. 1781, unless particularly contracted to be paid in gold or silver, shall be adjusted agreeable to the scale of depreciation established in this state; and the general treasurer is hereby empowered and directed to give his promissory notes for all such balances as are due, with interest.

It is voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to Benjamin Bourne, Esq., A. D. Q. M. G., to sell, at public vendue, the guard house in the town of Providence, standing near the Congregational meeting house, and that he appropriate the monies thence arising to the use of his department.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of divers soldiers, who had enlisted for three years in the Continental battalions of this state, praying this Assembly to make provision for the payment of the money due to them on ac-

count of the depreciation of their wages, be referred to the next session ; and that the books containing the adjustment of their accounts be then laid by the secretary before this Assembly.

Whereas, His Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of several members of this General Assembly, during the recess thereof, requested David Howell, Esq., to proceed to Philadelphia, and represent the state in Congress, in the room of William Ellery, Esq., whose place had become vacant at the last general election ; and whereas, His Honor the Deputy Governor remitted, by the said David Howell, the sum of six hundred dollars, to be equally divided between the said William Ellery, Ezekiel Cornell, Esq., and the said David Howell, to defray their expenses as delegates ; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said conduct of His Excellency the Governor, and of His Honor the Deputy Governor, be, and the same is hereby, approved ; and that the said sum of six hundred dollars be repaid to His Honor the Deputy Governor out of the general treasury.

Whereas, Col. John Malbone hath by petition represented to this Assembly, that he brought forward an action of debt to the court of common pleas, held in the county of Newport, in November last, against Monsieur Lanfrey Delisle, upon a lease which the said Lanfrey Delisle, as one of the agents for the army of His Most Christian Majesty, had entered into for the hire of certain stores and other buildings belonging to the said John Malbone ; that, on the writ being served on the said Delisle, the General Assembly bailed him, and permitted him to go at large ; that at the said court the petitioner recovered a judgment against said Delisle for seventy-seven guineas, being the rent in arrear, and costs and execution, amounting to twenty-one shillings ; that the execution issuing on the said judgment, returnable to May court last, was returned, neither body nor estate to be found, whereby the said petitioner lost the benefit of the

said judgment; and thereupon the said John Malbone prayed this Assembly, that the general treasurer may be empowered and directed to pay the amount of the said judgment and costs out of the present state tax; and the same being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be granted; and that the general treasurer be, and he hereby is, empowered and directed to pay the amount of the said execution, being one hundred and eight pounds, seventeen shillings, silver money, out of the general treasury, unto the said John Malbone.

An Act for granting and apportioning a tax of twelve thousand pounds, in silver or gold, upon the inhabitants of this state.

[For this act at length, see printed schedule.]

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he hereby is, empowered and directed to receive the certificates issued by Charles Holden, Esq., late commissary of purchases for this state, into the treasury; and to give his promissory notes, in behalf of the state, for the amount of such certificates, with interest thereon from the dates of the same, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, which notes shall be made payable in three years from their respective dates.

It is further voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be empowered and directed to receive any sums of money of the emission of June, A. D. 1780, funded on real estate, not under ten pounds, into the treasury, and give therefor his promissory notes, payable in three years from their respective dates, with an interest of six per cent. per annum; and that he allow an interest of six per cent. per annum on all bills of the said emission from the date thereof, which shall be brought into the treasury as aforesaid.

It is voted and resolved, that James Helme, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to estimate the damages done in South Kingstown by the enemy, during the present war.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of Job Bennet, Esq., to this Assembly, praying that an allowance may be made to him for a dwelling house, which was taken down by the commanding officer at Newport, in the year 1776, in order to erect the north battery, be referred to the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of forty-three pounds, seventeen shillings and seven pence, silver money, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury unto Daniel Rodman, Esq., for his negro man enlisted into the late Col. Greene's battalion, agreeable to an act of the Assembly, passed at February session, 1778.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of thirty-four pounds, three shillings, silver money, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, unto the executors of Mr. Richard Greene, deceased, for a negro man named Cato, enlisted into the regiment of the late Col. Greene, agreeable to an act of the General Assembly, passed at February session, A. D. 1778.

Whereas, Lieutenant James Miller, who was appointed to command a corps ordered to be raised for the defence of the town of Newport, represented to this Assembly that he finds it impracticable to raise the number of men ordered by the General Assembly, and therefore prayed leave to resign; and the same being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that he be, and he is hereby, permitted to resign accordingly.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Thomas Kinyon, Benedict Kinyon, Garvis Kinyon, Oliver Kinyon, Samuel Larkin, Jr., Thomas Potter, Thomas Ricords, David Woodmansie, Ezekiel Barber, John Webster, Thomas Webster, Thomas Bentley, Remington Clarke, Benjamin Hoxsie and Benjamin Barber, Jr., all of Richmond; Samuel Westcott,

of Cranston; Esek Carr, Caleb Carr, Joseph Dolliver, Jr., Peleg Sweet and Richard Sweet, all of West Greenwich; Samuel Angell, Peter Pearce and Joseph Collins, all of Scituate; Joseph Wilbur, Samuel Coe and Thomas Briggs, all of Little Compton, &c, and they are hereby, permitted to subscribe the test prescribed by law, under the direction of the town councils of the several towns to which they belong,—the deputies from the said towns respectively having recommended the aforesigned persons as friendly to the liberties and independency of their country.

Whereas, Mr. George Hazard Peckham preferred a petition unto this General Assembly, setting forth that he is possessed of three lots of land, containing thirty-four acres, with two dwelling houses thereon, lying in Charlestown, which he is very desirous of selling, in order to discharge his debts; that for that purpose he has advertised the same for sale, but to no effect; that from sickness and other misfortunes, with the necessary expense of supporting a numerous family, his circumstances are much embarrassed; that he is sued by some of his creditors; that it is out of his power to hire money, with offering undoubted security; that the said lots of land and buildings have been measured off and appraised by Col. Thomas Potter, Col. John Gardner, Mr. Rowland Brown and Col. Ray Sands, who did the same under oath, by which it appears that if the same could be disposed of at their just value, he would be able to discharge his debts, and have something left for the support of his family; and therefore prayed this Assembly to grant him a lottery for selling his said estates: and the same being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be, and the same is hereby granted; that Immanuel Case, Esq., Mr. Rowland Brown, Samuel Segar, Esq., Capt. Samuel Potter and William Davis, Esq., or any four of them, be, and they are hereby, appointed directors of said lottery, on their giving bond to the general treasurer in double the

sum that the tickets shall amount to, for the faithful discharge and performance of their said trust.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to consolidate the securities which have been issued from the treasurer's office in this state, bearing an interest of six per cent. per annum; and that he reduce the said securities to specie value, agreeable to this state's scale of depreciation, calculating the same from the dates of the said notes respectively.

It is voted and resolved, that the prices to be taken for the ferriage and transportation of men, creatures, and other things, at the several ferries in this state, shall not exceed fifty per cent. more than they were stated at in the year 1757.

Whereas, Mr. Benjamin Durfee presented a petition to this Assembly, shewing that he enlisted himself as a soldier in one of the regiments raised in this state in the year 1775; that he went a volunteer with the detachment commanded by the then Col. Benedict Arnold, which marched into Canada; that, at the storming of Quebec, the petitioner was made a prisoner to the enemy, from whom, in June, A. D. 1776, he fortunately made his escape, and came home to his friends on Rhode Island; that soon after, he again fell into the hands of the enemy, when they took possession of Rhode Island; and that, by means of his captivity and confinement with the enemy as aforesaid, he hath been prevented from applying for the payment of his wages; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to order payment of the same; and whereas, it appears by a certificate from Colonel John Topham, in whose company he enlisted, that the said Benjamin Durfee never received but one month's pay, and that there is now a balance of twenty-four pounds, ten shillings, silver money, due to him for his pay in arrear;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said sum of twenty-four pounds, ten shillings, silver money, be allowed

and paid unto the said Benjamin Durfee, out of the general treasury, and that the same be charged to the United States.

Whereas, Mr. Francis Brindley preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that in the beginning of the year 1777, he being then at Newport, which was in possession of the British troops, the state took a quantity of sugars belonging to him, to the amount of near one thousand pounds, which were then stored at the Fulling Mills, (so called,) in Warwick; that as he ever wished the welfare and happiness of his country, and is a friend to the independency thereof, he relies upon the honor and justice of the General Assembly, that as they took his property for the support of the army, they will be pleased to make him satisfaction and compensation therefor, in such way as will be agreeable under the present state of the public finances, and his own real want thereof; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that Gideon Mumford, Archibald Crary and Thomas Holden, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into and ascertain the quantity and value of said sugars, and report thereon to this Assembly, at the next session.

Whereas, Mrs. Margaret Bates preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that her late husband, James Bates, was purser of one of His Britannic Majesty's ships; that by the regulations of the navy of His said Britannic Majesty, she is entitled to an annuity of twenty pounds sterling; that in order to receive said annuity, it is necessary she should go to New York, to prove her being lawfully married to the said James Bates; and thereupon she prayed this Assembly to grant her liberty to go to New York, for the purpose aforesaid, in a flag of truce, and return again to this state, under the inspection of such person or persons as this Assembly should be pleased to appoint; and the same being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Margaret Bates be, and she hereby is, permitted to go to New York for the purpose aforesaid, and return, under the direction of Christopher Ellery, Esq., D. C. G. P.

Whereas, Rouse J. Helme and William Rhodes, Esqs., who, with Mr. Moses Lippitt, were appointed to re-examine the account of Col. William Barton, for the depreciation of his wages, as stated and reported by a committee, made the following report, to wit :

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly relative to the account of Col. William Barton.*

We, the subscribers, having examined the within report, do not find any mistakes in the calculation, and submit the same.

ROUSE J. HELME,  
WILLIAM RHODES,  
Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, received ; and that Mr. John Brown, Thomas Holden and William Richmond, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appoint a committee to set off, to the said William Barton, some confiscated estate, which shall be equal in value to the sum of eight hundred and fifty-two pounds, four shillings and eleven pence, being the balance due to the said William Barton.

Whereas, it appears to this General Assembly, by a certificate from the town clerk of Coventry, that Andrew Craige, of said Coventry, hath conveyed all his real estate to Mr. William Love ; and whereas, there are just grounds to believe that said conveyance is fraudulent, and without any valuable consideration made and executed, for the sole purpose of defrauding his creditors ; and whereas, the said Andrew Craige is indebted to this state in the sum of three hundred silver dollars ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kent be, and he hereby is, empowered and direct-

ed to sell the said real estate of the said Andrew Craigie, said to be conveyed as aforesaid, in order to raise the said sum of three hundred dollars; and if no person should bid at said vendue, for said estate, in that case the said sheriff is empowered and directed to bid off said estate in behalf of the state.

Whereas, there is a quantity of New England rum in the hands of John Cooke, Esq., which was purchased by this state, in part of the specific supplies ordered to be raised in this state for the United States, for the supply of the army the last year; and as said rum is wasting,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen be, and he hereby is, empowered to sell said rum on the best terms he can, and pay the money arising from the sale thereof into the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Dr. John Field be, and he is hereby, permitted to send from New York, in a cartel vessel, to Mr. Francis Brindley, of Newport, the wearing apparel and clothing late belonging to his deceased wife, daughter of the said Francis Brindley, and that the same be received under the care, direction and inspection of Christopher Ellery, Esq., D. C. G. P.

Whereas, several towns have neglected to assess the Continental tax of six thousand pounds, payable into the general treasury of this state on or before the 1st day of June inst., within the time in the act for assessing said tax prescribed; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that such towns as have neglected to assess said tax as aforesaid, be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to assess the same on or before the 27th day of June inst., and that the general treasurer be directed to issue his warrants accordingly; that the assessors in the several towns add the lawful interest to the respective proportions of their several towns, and assess the same therewith; that the collectors of taxes in the said towns have the same power and authority to collect the

taxes assessed agreeable to this resolve, as though the same had been assessed within the time first prescribed and limited for assessing the same; and that they pay the same into the general treasury within thirty days from the time the said taxes are ordered to be assessed as aforesaid.

It is voted and resolved, that the draft of a letter to Robert R. Livingston, Esq., minister of foreign affairs for the United States, relative to the auspicious event of the birth of a Dauphin of France, be, and the same is hereby, approved; that His Excellency the Governor cause a fair copy thereof to be made, and that he sign and transmit the same to the said minister of foreign affairs.\*

Whereas, Capt. Henry Dayton, commandant of a corps raised for the defence of the town of Newport, laid before this Assembly an abstract for pay and subsistence for said corps, from the 1st day of February to the 4th day of March, A. D. 1782, amounting to the sum of two hundred and eighty pounds, eight shillings, silver money; and whereas, the auditor to whom the said abstract was referred for ex-

\* *Governor Greene to R. R. Livingston, Esq.*

Newport, June 15th, 1782.

Sir:—I had the honor of receiving your address of the 14th of May past, informing me that the Minister Plenipotentiary of His Most Christian Majesty had announced to the United States, in Congress assembled, at a public audience, the birth of a Dauphin of France, which I laid before the General Assembly, who were pleased to request me to transmit the enclosed letter of congratulation upon that happy event, to His Excellency the Minister of France, which I request may be delivered unto him, in the name of the Governor, Council and Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, in General Assembly convened.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest esteem, sir, your most obedient, &c.,

WM. GREENE.

To R. R. Livingston, Esq., Minister of Foreign Affairs.

*Chez de la Luzerne to Governor Greene.*

Philadelphia, le 9 Juiller, 1782.

Messieurs:—Jai recue les felicitations que uns m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser le 15 du mois passe au sujet de la naissance de Mqr. le Dauphin Geler Fera parvenir a S. M. Je puis vous assurer d'avance qu'elle sera tres sensible aux sentiments que vous lui temoignez a cette occasion. L'affection des habitans de Rhode Island pour les Francais ne lui est pas inconnue. Elle a ete informee de l'harmonie qui a regne entre les deux nations pendant le sejour de ses troupes a Newport et des regrets qu'elles ont eprouves en quittant un etat ou ils ont recues avec la plus grande hospitalite. Ces motifs augmenter

amination, has reported that he finds the same right charged and cast ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said abstract be, and the same is hereby, allowed ; that the auditor be empowered and directed to make out, for the several persons in said abstract named, certificates for the sums due to them respectively ; that said certificates be receivable at the general treasury in payment of the next state tax which shall be ordered by this Assembly ; and that the auditor deliver the said certificates to the said Henry Dayton, to be by him delivered to the several persons to whom they shall belong.

Whereas, Lieut. John Miller laid before this Assembly three several abstracts for pay and subsistence for himself, as commissary of issues to the corps raised for the defence of the town of Newport, including his service from the 16th day of December, A. D. 1781, to the 1st day of April, A. D. 1782, amounting in all to fourteen pounds, nine shillings and nine pence, silver money ; and whereas, the auditor to

ont le plaisir qui le Roi aura d'aprendre la joie que vous avez marquée en apprenant la naissance du Prince que la Providence a accordée aux voeux de la nation.

Je vous prie d'être, persuade, Messieurs, du plaisir que j'ai à être chargé de transmettre au Roi, mon maître, l'assurance de vos sentiments et de la part que vous prenez aux événements favorables qui lui arrivent.

Je suis, avec un profond respect, Messieurs, votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,  
CHEV. DE LA LUZERNE.

Aux Gouverneurs Rhode Island.

[TRANSLATION.]

Philadelphia, 9th July, 1782.

Gentlemen :—I have received the felicitations that you have done me the honor to address on the 15th of the last month, on the subject of the birth of Mqr. le Dauphin Geler born of Her Majesty. I can assure you in advance that she will be very sensible to the sentiments that you have expressed to her on this occasion. The affection of the inhabitants of Rhode Island for the French is not unknown to her. She has been informed of the harmony which has existed between the two nations, during the sojourn of her troops in Newport, and of the regret that they have exhibited in leaving a state where they have been received with the greatest hospitality. These thoughts will add to the King's pleasure when he learns of the joy that you have manifested on hearing of the birth of the Prince, whom Providence has accorded to the wishes of the nation.

I beg to assure you, gentlemen, of the pleasure it affords me to be charged with transmitting to the King, my master, the assurance of your sympathies, and of the part that you take in the favorable event that has attended him.

I am, with profound respect, gentlemen, your very humble and obedient servant,  
CHEV. DE LA LUZERNE.

To the Governor of Rhode Island.

whom the said abstracts were referred for examination, hath reported that he finds the same right charged and cast; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that said abstracts be allowed; that the auditor make out certificates for the sums due on them respectively, and deliver the same to Capt. Henry Dayton, to be by him delivered to the said Lieut. John Miller; and that the said certificates be receivable at the general treasury, in payment of the next state tax which shall be ordered by this Assembly.

Whereas, Capt. Henry Dayton laid before this Assembly an abstract for pay and subsistence for the corps under his command, (raised for the defence of the town of Newport,) from the 1st of January to the 1st of February, A. D. 1782, amounting to the sum of two hundred and eighty-two pounds, nine shillings and two pence, silver money; and whereas, the auditor to whom the said abstract was referred for examination, hath reported that he finds the same right charged and cast;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said abstract be allowed; that the auditor be empowered and directed to make out certificates for the sums due to the several persons in said abstract named, and deliver the same to the said Henry Dayton, to be by him delivered to the several persons to whom they belong; and that said certificates be receivable at the general treasury, in payment of the next state tax which shall be ordered by this Assembly.

Whereas, Lieut. James Miller laid before this Assembly an abstract for pay due to the corps raised for the defence of the town of Newport, while the same was under his command, to wit, from the 4th day of March to the 1st day of April, A. D. 1782, amounting to the sum of one hundred and fifty-nine pounds, four shillings and six pence half-penny, silver money; and whereas, the auditor to whom the said abstract was referred for examination, hath report-

ed that he finds the same right charged and cast; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that said abstract be, and the same is hereby allowed; that the auditor be empowered and directed to make out certificates for the several persons therein named, for the sums due to them respectively, and deliver the said certificates to Capt. Henry Dayton, to be by him delivered to the several persons to whom the same shall belong; and that said certificates be receivable at the general treasury, in payment of the next state tax which shall be ordered by this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Col. John Topham be, and he is hereby, appointed to supply the corps commanded by Ensign Bliss, now doing duty at Newport, with rations; that each ration consist of one pound of beef, or, in lieu thereof, three-quarters of a pound of pork, one pound of bread, and one gill of rum or whiskey; that there be an allowance of one quart of salt and two quarts of vinegar to one hundred rations, and an allowance of eight pounds of soap and three pounds of candles to seven hundred rations.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said John Topham, for each and every ration which he shall furnish as aforesaid, shall be allowed one shilling.

Whereas, in entering judgments upon contracts made during the circulation of paper money, doubts have arisen from what time the depreciation is to be calculated; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that in making up and entering of all judgments upon contracts for paper money, the depreciation thereof (if any) be calculated at the date of the note, obligation or instrument given for the payment of the same; or if no security in writing be given for the payment of the same, at the time the contract was made; any law, custom or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

It is further voted and resolved, that the act of this

Assembly, making Continental money of the new emission a lawful tender, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Whereas, inconvenience and injury hath frequently arisen by the present method of assessment of taxes upon real estates, which are improved by tenants, and not the owners thereof; for remedy whereof in future,—

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that in all future assessments of taxes, the assessors of taxes in the several towns in this state assess the same upon the persons who hold and improve the real estates in the respective towns; and that the real and personal estates on which the same are assessed, shall be liable for the payment and satisfaction of the taxes which shall be assessed as aforesaid.

Provided, nevertheless, that if the tenants and occupants of real estates as aforesaid, are not possessed in their own rights of estates, either real or personal, sufficient to satisfy the taxes assessed against them as aforesaid, the real estates they improve shall be liable to the satisfaction and payment of the taxes assessed upon the same.

It is further voted and resolved, that in all future assessments of taxes in the several towns, the assessors shall discriminate all taxes assessed for real estates from those assessed for personal estates, and in the rate-bills shall make a separate and distinct column for each.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£' s. d.
Ezra Chace, a wounded soldier, "to help compensate him for his misfortune" .....	15 0 0
Col. Jeremiah Olney, expenses in arresting deserters.....	7 3 ½
John Carter, for printing acts of Assembly, etc.....	107 12 6
Bennett Wheeler, do. do. ....	41 5 4
Thomas Peckham, for transporting wood and baggage for the troops on Rhode Island, in 1775 and 1776.....	34 7 8
Hon. Jabez Bowen, for expense of making a standard for the use of the state's battalion.....	16 14 0
Benjamin Greene, for making 169 knapsacks.....	15 9 0
William and James Wheaton, for 200 leather caps, etc., for Col. Olney's regiment .....	94 3 0
Samuel and Seth Yates, for 267 knapsacks for the state's Continental battalion .....	16 4 0
Benjamin Taylor, for straps and buckles for knapsacks.....	23 0 1
William Cozzens, for making 97 knapsacks.....	5 17 2
Gabriel Allen, for painting 200 leather caps.....	31 10 0
William Hammond, for taking an account of damages wantonly done by the enemy in North Kingstown.....	2 5 0
Dr. Benj. Slack, for medicine and attendance on sick soldiers.....	12 15 5
Elizabeth Markham, for attendance on prisoners of war, sick with small pox, on Coaster's Island.....	9 0 0

John Kerber, for armorer's work done for militia on Rhode Island.....	47	12	11
William Hopkins, for cattle.....	36	0	0
Gideon Wanton, for numbering the inhabitants of Newport in 1776.....	2	8	0
John Slocum, for stock taken from him for the public use.....	30	0	0
Archibald Crary, for sundry bills of clothing for troops.....	150	0	0
Oliver Ring Warner, balance due him for cannon, shot, &c.....	53	3	0

Adjourned to the third Monday in August, to meet at South Kingstown.

God save the United States of America.

*Hon. Robert Morris to Gov. Greene.*

Office of Finance, 26 June, 1782.

Sir:—Finding that your state have made advances of pay to their troops, it becomes my duty to inform your Excellency that Congress included in their estimates, amounting to eight million, the sums necessary for paying the army. Of consequence, there can be no use in making such payments by the several states. I must also observe, sir, that partial payments, or supplies of any kind, have been found, by experience, to give general dissatisfaction, and therefore the determination to discontinue them has been long since adopted. The variety of accounts, also, is dangerous and expensive, and therefore to be avoided. I might add other reasons why such payments by the states cannot be admitted in abatement of their respective quotas. The same reasons also operate against the admission of charges for supplies of any kind, or certificates therefor, as deductions from those quotas. I have written to Mr. Olney on the subject the twenty-third instant, and am now to pray your Excellency's attention and assistance to prevent such irregularities in future. The more our operations are simplified, the better will they be understood, and the more satisfactorily will they be conducted. Congress have asked for men and money. These granted, they will ask for nothing more; and I persuade myself that if, consistently with the confederation, they could confine their requisitions to money alone, the people at large would desire relief from it; the Legislatures would act with greater ease, and our resources be applied with greater vigor.

I have the honor to be, with perfect respect, sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

ROBERT MORRIS.

To His Excellency the Governor of Rhode Island.

*General Washington to Governor Greene.*

Head-Quarters, Newburgh, July 10, 1782.

Sir:—I think it necessary to communicate to your Excellency the following remarks of the inspector general, which are annexed to the last inspection return of the Rhode Island regiment:

"This regiment wants 7 ensigns, 9 sergeants, 5 musicians, and 75 privates to complete it. The regiment is in good order and discipline, notwithstanding one-third of the men are recruits. If it should happen to be deficient in this point, it might justly be attributed to a want of officers. The regiment can at present form two large bat-

talions, but there are scarcely officers enough to command one. If the state does not fill up the vacancies, the commander-in-chief must be requested to appoint officers from the other lines to command in the regiment."

I have only to add my earnest wish that a matter of so much importance to the service as that of having a sufficient number of officers in the field to command the men, may be attended to by your state as soon as the circumstances will permit.

I have the honor to be, with great regard,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

### *Delegates in Congress to Gov. Greene.*

Philadelphia, July 19, 1782.

Sir:—We have been honored with your Excellency's letter of the — ulto., and the enclosed resolutions of the Hon. the General Assembly.

You may be assured that proper attention will always be paid on our part to any instruction which that honorable body may think proper to honor us with, and particularly to those now received. We have a proper sense of the principles and justice on which they are founded, and are fully impressed with the importance of the objects that the state wish to obtain. Yet, such is our embarrassed situation, that we dare not at present flatter you that we shall be soon able to obtain that justice which is due to the state on account of the old money or back lands. At the same time, we take the liberty to assure you that we will endeavor to obtain those desirable objects by embracing every favorable moment.

It is now believed that the United Provinces of the Low Countries have acknowledged the independence of the United States, and received Mr. Adams in his official character of ambassador. This intelligence depends altogether upon the authenticity of the public newspapers. No official letters have been received from Europe of a later date than about the last of March or the first of April. We have little doubt but that this glorious news is true; and if so, is an event that cannot but be favorable to the United States, notwithstanding, we are informed from good authority, that a minister at the Hague, from a respectable northern power, used every means in his power, with their High Mightinesses, to prevent its taking place. I therefore cannot undertake to say what effect it may have in the different courts of Europe.

We are altogether at a loss to say what measures the court of Great Britain intend to pursue, having received no intelligence from Europe that is to be relied on since the new ministry entered upon their administration; neither have we any reason to suppose that Mr. Guy Carlton has received any instructions from them. It appears probable that this summer will be spent by them in fixing their plans. Whether they will be for war or peace, is at present altogether uncertain. But in our opinion, let them adopt which they will, they will prosecute the one they do adopt in earnest.

Congress have been employed for a long time in the common business that daily presents itself, without doing anything that particularly deserves your notice. There are several committees that have business of consequence under consideration, on which it is probable they will soon report.

His Excellency the Commander-in-chief has been a week in this city. His journey to this place was in consequence of a previous appointment to meet the Count de Rochambeau. Their meeting was according to the appointment. Several committees of Congress have had conferences with the General since he has been in this place, on business of importance, and we have the pleasure to assure you that we have

every reason to suppose that the most perfect harmony subsists between him and Congress at this time. His stay from the army will be short.

We beg you will excuse us on account of the barrenness of this letter, as well as for our fault of not acknowledging the receipt of yours at an earlier period. We waited in hopes of being able to communicate something worthy your notice.

We have the honor to be

Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servants,

EZEK. CORNELL,  
DAVID HOWELL.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Hon. Robert Morris to Gov. Greene.*

[Circular.]

Office of Finance, 29 July, 1782.

Sir:—Finding that several states are in the habit of making partial payments to their troops, as well as of expending monies for the purchase of clothing, it becomes my duty to inform you that the requisitions for the service of the current year included both the pay and clothing of the Continental army. Any payments which the several states may think proper to make, or any expenditures for clothing or the like, cannot be admitted in deduction from the quota assigned them. It becomes necessary, from many reasons which I will not trouble your Excellency with the enumeration of, that nothing be received from the states but money. This alone can prevent those intricate accounts which hitherto have involved everything in labyrinth confusion. Had the states complied with the requisitions made on them for the current service, in any degree proportionate either to the magnitude or urgency of the occasion, we should ere this have had the pleasure of knowing that our army enjoyed all the emoluments they have a right to ask for. I take the liberty to add that it would be proper to cause accounts to be transmitted to the paymaster general, as speedily as possible, of what has been advanced for pay, that he may at least prevent a double credit for the same sums. With respect to the pay which may have become due anteriorly to the first day of January, 1782, it will become a part of that debt from the United States, for the funding of which, revenue will be required from the several states as soon as Congress shall have digested their resolutions on that subject.

I have, on many occasions, delivered the sentiments contained above to several of the states as circumstances called or occasion required. But it appears necessary to make the formal communication to all, and therefore I must pray your Excellency to excuse any repetitions which may have happened.

Before I close this letter, I must observe, sir, that of four millions payable, according to the requisitions of Congress, by the first instant, I did not receive forty thousand dollars. Judge, then, of the anticipations which were necessary to bring us where we are! Judge of the situation in which we are placed, and be not surprised at any consequence which may follow from that universal neglect, which is alike unaccountable and inexcusable.

I have the honor to be, with very great respect, sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

ROBERT MORRIS.

To His Excellency the Governor of Rhode Island.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at South Kingstown, on the third Monday in August, 1782.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

The Assistants and Deputies the same as at the May session.

The petition of Coggeshall Olney, Esq., first major of this state's Continental battalion, preferred unto this Assembly, praying that no further deeds or conveyances of the lands set off by this state to the officers and soldiers of the regiment late commanded by Col. Israel Angell, may be executed until application from the said battalion shall be made to this Assembly, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be referred to the next session of this Assembly; that Col. Israel Angell and Capt. William Tew be cited then to appear; and that in the meantime no deed or deeds, or other conveyances, be made of the said lands or any part thereof.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Benoni Pain, of Smithfield, be cited to appear at the next session of this Assembly, to ascertain certain facts which have been suggested relative to Stephen Stevens, a recruit for the said town of Smithfield, who never joined the army, and therefore did not fulfil the condition of a certain obligation, given to him by the said Benoni Pain, whereby the sum secured in the said writing is become forfeited to the state; that Peleg Arnold, Esq., be requested to retain the original security in his hands, till he shall receive further directions from this Assembly; and that Caleb Aldrich, Esq., be also cited to

appear at the next session of this Assembly, to give information relative to the said matter.

Whereas, it hath been represented unto this Assembly that one Witham Woodward, who was lately commissioned to take charge of a flag of truce bound to New York, has infringed the customs of civilized nations in general, and broken the laws of this state in particular, by taking on board the vessel British goods and merchandize, with an intent to import them into this state, which said vessel has been since captured and carried into Connecticut;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Witham Woodward, John Norris, the pilot, and the rest of the crew of the said flag, together with Benjamin Easton and Jeremiah Sheffield, be cited to appear immediately before this Assembly, that the necessary examination may be made relating to the said affair.

And it is further voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to write to Connecticut, and desire that all the letters, invoices and papers found on board the said flag, may be sent here, for the inspection of the General Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to write to Capt. Deshon, and the other owners of the armed boat in Connecticut, which lately captured in the sound a schooner laden with flour and dry goods, said to be consigned to some of the inhabitants of this state, for all such papers, or authenticated copies thereof, as any wise relate to the subjects of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that Capt. John Tillinghast and Capt. William Corey, of Providence, be cited forthwith to appear before this Assembly, to give evidence of what they know relative to the malpractices of several commanders of flags of truce, which have been commissioned from this state to New York, or of any other persons concerned in an illicit trade with the enemy.

And it is further voted and resolved, that Christopher

Ellery, Esq., commissary of prisoners in this state, be requested to attend this Assembly immediately.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of thirty-eight pounds and eleven pence, three farthings, silver money, be allowed and paid unto John Jenckes, Esq., out of the general treasury, agreeable to the auditor's report, in full for his negro man Primus, who enlisted into the Continental service.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of thirty-six pounds, six shillings and four pence, one farthing, silver money, be allowed and paid unto John Jenckes, Esq., out of the general treasury, agreeable to the auditor's report, in full for his negro man Prince, who enlisted into the Continental service.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of forty-four pounds, eleven shillings and seven pence, silver money, be allowed and paid unto Beriah Brown, Esq., out of the general treasury, agreeable to the auditor's report, in full for his negro man Thomas, who enlisted into the Continental service.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of thirty-seven pounds, nineteen shillings and one penny, one farthing, silver money, be allowed and paid unto Beriah Brown, Esq., out of the general treasury, agreeable to the auditor's report, in full for his negro man Scipio, who enlisted into the Continental service.

The petition of Mr. James Bliven, preferred unto this Assembly, praying that he may be paid for a quantity of corn, taken from him for the use of Colonel Christopher Greene's regiment, in September, A. D. 1780, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing and Gideon Hoxsie, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, directed to inquire into the facts referred to in the said petition, and that if it should appear that the corn was the property of the said James Bliven, they discount the value of the same out of the rents due from the said James Bliven to the state.

The petition of Dr. Simon Sprague, of Exeter, preferred unto this Assembly, praying for liberty to go to New Shoreham, to visit an aunt who is dangerously ill, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Simon Sprague be, and he is hereby, permitted to proceed to New Shoreham, under the direction of Rouse J. Helme, Esq.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly that Nathaniel Merril, who enlisted in this state's Continental battalion, for the town of Smithfield, for the term of three years, has deserted, and that Mr. Hezekiah Sprague can give full information of said fact;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Hezekiah Sprague, and also Peleg Arnold, Esq., be cited to appear at the next session of this Assembly, to relate what they know respecting the said affair.

Whereas, Gideon Mumford, Archibald Crary and Thomas Holden, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly relative to a quantity of Sugars belonging to Mr. Francis Brindley.*

The subscribers, being appointed by the General Assembly a committee to ascertain the quantity and value of sugars belonging to Mr. Francis Brindley, taken possession of by this state, do report that we find, on due inquiry, the quantity to be three hundred and sixty-one hundred weight, at the value of forty-eight shillings per hundred, which makes the whole amount, with compound interest from the time it was taken possession of to the 21st day of August, A. D. 1782, to eleven hundred and eighty-five pounds, twelve shillings and two pence, silver money, which we think justly due to the said Francis Brindley.

Which is submitted by your most obedient servants,

GIDEON MUMFORD,  
ARCHIBALD CRARY,  
THOMAS HOLDEN,  
Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby,

directed to give his promissory note or notes, upon interest, payable in three years from the date, for eleven hundred pounds, silver money, in part of the said sum ; and that the said Francis Brindley have an order on the general treasurer for the remaining sum of eighty-five pounds, twelve shillings and two pence.

It is voted and resolved, that Archibald Crary, Rouse J. Helme, William Channing and Thomas Tillinghast, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to examine the letters and papers taken in the flag, and just sent from New London, and report thereon to this Assembly.

Whereas, a great number of the inhabitants of this state have large demands on the several staff departments in this state, and no provision is made, either by the United States or this state, for their present satisfaction or future payment ; which delay of payments, or giving security for the same, is attended with great injustice to the said creditors, and has given them much uneasiness and disquiet ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Henry Sherburne, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to ascertain the amount of the sums due to the inhabitants of this state, from the several departments of James Lovett, Thomas Greene and Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esqs., late deputy quartermasters general ; and also the debts of the said Thomas Greene, as deputy commissary of military stores ; the demands against the department of Benjamin Bourne, Esq., the present quartermaster, and also the demands against the said James Lovett, as quartermaster general of the militia of this state ; that to this end, the said Henry Sherburne call on the aforesaid several staff officers, who are directed to furnish him with the exact amount of the demands of the inhabitants of this state against their said departments respectively ; and that the said Henry Sherburne make report thereof to the next session of this Assembly, carefully distinguishing the demands against this state from those against the United States.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said Henry Sherburne reduce such certificates as were issued by any of the said staff officers while paper money was in circulation, to specie, agreeable to the scale of depreciation enacted by this state, and in said reduction calculate the depreciation from the time the said several sums became due.

It is voted and resolved, that Lieut. Benjamin L. Peckham, of this state's Continental battalion, be promoted to the rank and pay of a captain in the said battalion, in the room of Dutee Jerauld, who hath resigned; that he take rank from the 22d day of June last, it being the time that the said vacancy happened; and also that Mr. Ephraim Kirby be appointed an ensign in the aforesaid battalion.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to write an answer to the letter received by him from Governor Clinton, of the state of New York, dated the 25th of July last, relative to Robert Stoddard; that Governor Clinton be informed that the notoriety of the inimical conduct and character of the said Robert Stoddard is such that he cannot be admitted to reside in this state.

It is further voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor cause the said Robert Stoddard to return to Governor Clinton as soon as his health will permit.

It is voted and resolved, that Henry Sherburne and Welcome Arnold, Esqs., and Mr. John Brown, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft a letter, to be signed by His Excellency the Governor, to the president of Congress, relative to a letter from Robert Morris, Esq., superintendent of finance, and a resolve of Congress respecting a quantity of English goods, said to be shipped from Ostend by Mr. John Murray; and that the said committee also draft a resolve, expressing the sense of this Assembly respecting the groundless insinuations that Messrs. Clark and Nightingale were concerned in the said importation of British goods.

Upon the petition of Mr. Andrew Craige, of Coventry, preferred unto this Assembly—

It is voted and resolved, that Archibald Crary, Jonathan Comstock and Isaac Johnston, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the matters set forth in the said petition; that they make report to this Assembly at the next session, and that in the meantime, all proceedings against the estate of the said Andrew Craige be stayed.

The petition of Samuel Ward, Esq., representing unto this Assembly that he owes a sum of money unto Mr. John Sands and others, of New Shoreham, and that he hath an opportunity of paying the same by making sale of certain lands, and transferring securities to the said John Sands and others, and praying this Assembly to grant permission to the said John Sands to come from the said New Shoreham to the main, and bring with him a small quantity of rigging, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said John Sands be, and he is hereby, permitted to come from New Shoreham to East Greenwich, under the direction of Richard Fry, Esq., and that he have liberty to bring a small quantity of rigging with him.

It is voted and resolved, that two hundred able-bodied, effective men be raised and enlisted within this state, as recruits for this state's Continental battalion, commanded by Lieut. Col. Commandant Jeremiah Olney, to serve in the army of the United States for the term of three years, or during the war, unless sooner discharged; that each able-bodied man who shall be enlisted as aforesaid, and pass muster, shall be entitled to receive a bounty of one hundred Spanish milled dollars, from this state, over and above the rations, wages, clothing, and other allowances which are made by Congress to the Continental soldiers now in the field; that the said recruits be mustered by the said Jeremiah

Olney; that the said bounty of one hundred dollars be paid to the said reeruits, so mustered as aforesaid, by the general treasurer's giving his promissory note for the same, payable on the 1st day of March next; and that if the said bounty of one hundred dollars shall not be paid on or before the said 1st day of March, then and in that case the said recruit so enlisted and mustered shall be discharged from the service, on his request.

It is further voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to cause two hundred notes to be printed immediately, of the following form, to wit:

State of Rhode Island, &c.

**BOUNTIES FOR RHODE ISLAND RECRUITS.**

I, JOSEPH CLARKE, general treasurer of said state, for myself and my successors in said office, do promise to pay to \_\_\_\_\_ or order, a recruit in the Rhode Island regiment, one hundred Spanish milled dollars, on or before the first day of March next, and if not then paid, the said \_\_\_\_\_ is to be discharged from his enlistment, on his request, and not otherwise; and in such case this note to be void, agreeable to an act of said state, passed at South Kingstown, August 23, 1782.

Witness my hand:

JOSEPH CLARKE, General Treasurer.

It is further voted and resolved, that each non-commis-  
sioned officer, who shall enlist a recruit as aforesaid, shall  
be entitled to receive five dollars for each recruit he shall  
engage, which shall be paid him out of the general treas-  
ury, on his producing a certificate from the said Jeremiah  
Olney.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to cause the said notes, when printed, to be transmitted to the said Jeremiah Olney by the first safe conveyance.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Henry Shearman, Daniel Bissell, David Northup and Thomas Hill, of North Kingstown, be, and they are hereby, permitted to sign the test act, before the town council or a town meeting in said North Kingstown; and that thereupon they be entitled to

the same privileges as those who have heretofore subscribed the same.

The petition of Mr. Samuel Brand, Jr., preferred unto this Assembly, praying for liberty to go to New Shoreham, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Samuel Brand, Jr., have permission to go to New Shoreham, under the direction of Joseph Noyes and Edward Bliven, Esqs.

Whereas, Mr. John Russell exhibited unto this Assembly an account by him charged against the state, for the services of himself and four men, from the 13th of June to the 1st of September, A. D. 1782, in keeping the magazine guard in the town of Providence ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount thereof, being seventy-nine pounds, silver money, be allowed and paid to the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., out of the general treasury, for the use of the said John Russell.

It is voted and resolved, that John Collins, Esq., be, and he is hereby, requested to proceed to Philadelphia, on the 3d day of December next, and take his seat in Congress, to supply the place of David Howell, Esq.

It is voted and resolved, that Jonathan Arnold, Esq., be, and he is hereby, requested to proceed to Philadelphia, as soon as he conveniently can, there to represent this state in Congress, in the room of Ezekiel Cornell, Esq., who is desirous of visiting his family ; that His Excellency the Governor be requested to authorize the said Jonathan Arnold accordingly ; that the aforesaid delegates, and David Howell, Esq., who is now at Congress, be empowered to receive out of the general treasury sixty pounds, lawful money, each, on account of their services and expenses as delegates as aforesaid, and that they account for the same.

It is further voted and resolved, that the pay of the delegates of this state in future be fixed at the rate of four Spanish milled dollars per day, for each and every day they

shall be employed in the service, the said allowance to be in full, including all expenses; and that the allowance stipulated as aforesaid, commence on the 20th of June last.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to sell, on the best terms he can, fifteen hogsheads of New England rum, twenty-one barrels of tallow, two tierces and sixteen barrels of beef, and a quantity of twine, in the hands of John Jenckes, Esq., belonging to this state, and that he render an account of the sale to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., and John Jenckes, Esq., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to sell, on the best terms they can, the remains of the powder mill belonging to this state, together with the dwelling house, tools and appurtenances of the same, and also the land whereon it stands, with the right to the water adjoining; and that they pay the amount of the sales into the general treasury, and render an account of the same to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly that Benjamin Bourne, Esq., A. D. Q. M. G., hath received orders to sell the public stores in his hands at public vendue, and remit the monies arising from the sale to his superior officer in the quartermaster's department, notwithstanding that the inhabitants of this state have just demands on his said department far exceeding the value of the said stores; therefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Benjamin Bourne be, and he is hereby, requested and directed, in case any person shall have a just demand on his said department, and shall purchase any of said stores exposed to public sale as aforesaid, to offset the purchase money against the demand of such creditor, and settle the account accordingly, notwithstanding any orders which he may have received from his superior officer in the staff department to the contrary.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Richard Bush, or such

other person as may be employed to carry the mail from or to Newport, be excused from the payment of any ferriage for himself and mail, in passing or re-passing from thence to the main.

Whereas, it appears by a return from the general treasurer's office, that many towns in this state have neglected to pay into the general treasury their respective quotas of the Continental tax of twelve thousand pounds, silver money, payable on the 1st day of September next;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that in consideration of the great scarcity of money, the payment of the said tax be, and the same is hereby, postponed to the last day of October next; and that then the said tax be punctually paid.

Whereas, Messrs. Peter Burlingame, Job Manchester and William Field, Jr., exhibited unto this Assembly an account by them charged against the state, for their time and expenses, and for the hire of two men, in dividing the town of Scituate; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the amount thereof, being fifteen pounds, twelve shilling, silver money, be allowed and paid to the said William Field, Jr., out of the general treasury, to discharge the same.

The petition of Mr. Joseph Holloway, Jr., representing unto this Assembly that he was a soldier in Col. Dyer's regiment, in August, A. D. 1778, and that he delivered his gun and bayonet into the public store at Howland's Ferry, but has never been able to get another in lieu thereof, and praying that he may have an order to receive his own gun and bayonet, or one equally as good, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that Josiah Flagg, Esq., conductor of military stores in this state, be, and he is hereby directed to deliver unto the said Joseph Holloway, Jr., a gun and bayonet, equal in value to that formerly belonging to the said Joseph Holloway, Jr.

An Act in amendment of and explaining the several acts passed by this Assembly, for classing the inhabitants of this state to furnish recruits.

Whereas, for the more speedy calling forth the resources of this state, and the filling up the Continental battalion thereof with recruits, it hath been found expedient to class the persons and estates of the inhabitants of the towns respectively, by committees in the said towns, and to assess upon them such sums of money, agreeable to their valuation, as would furnish such recruit; and whereas, it hath often happened that one or more of the persons belonging to a class have furnished a recruit, who hath passed muster, and the persons formed into such class, although assessed, have neglected to pay their proportion ;—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for each and every person who hath furnished a recruit, in manner as aforesaid, to call a special court upon any officer who hath received the assessments for the class money, and who hath neglected to do his duty therein, in the same manner as special courts are by law to be holden.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that where any person or persons belonging to any class hath furnished a recruit, and hath not received the several sums of the persons in such class as have been assessed by the committee, it shall and may be lawful for the person or persons who furnished such recruit, to call a special court upon any person or persons, or their estates, who have neglected or refused to pay their respective quotas assigned them.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that where any town or towns, by a vote in town meeting, hath excused any class, or any person in a delinquent class, who hath been classed by the committee, and such class furnished with a recruit, that the person or persons furnishing such recruit shall have an action of the case against the town treasurer of such town, to recover all such sums of money as he or they have advanced, which have been allowed by the committee, to be heard and determined by a special inferior court, to be convened in like manner as special courts are by law now to be holden.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that interest be allowed on all sums due as mentioned in this act, until the court shall enter up judgment thereon.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to postpone the issuing of executions against the treasurers of the several towns who are delinquent in the payment of their respective quotas of the Continental tax, payable the 1st day of June last, to the 15th day of September next; and in case any of the towns shall be delinquent at that time, he is hereby directed to issue his executions against the treasurers of such towns immediately thereon.

An Act in amendment to, and addition of, an act entitled "An Act more effectually to prevent illicit trade, commerce and correspondence, with the enemies of this and the other United States of America."

Whereas, it is of the utmost importance to the welfare of this and the other United States, that an effectual stop should be put to the pernicious practice of carrying on an illicit trade and correspondence with the enemies of the United States, and with the inhabitants of Long Island and New Shoreham, and of any other island or place in possession of or under the control of the enemy; and whereas, in the acts heretofore made, the time for calling special courts, and filing the claims for the articles seized, is not explicit;—

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that when any goods, wares or merchandize, being the produce of this state, or any other goods, wares or merchandize, shall be seized in conformity to the said act, the person or persons seizing the same shall draw his bill or information, setting forth the articles taken, and the material facts respecting the same, within two days after seizing and taking thereof; and shall make application to one of the justices of the superior court of judicature, court of assize and general gaol delivery, or to one of the justices of the inferior court of common pleas, within the county where such seizure is made, to appoint a special court to try the same, who shall thereupon order a special court to be convened, at some time not sooner than six days from the time of presenting the same, nor longer than ten days; and shall direct the clerk to receive such information on file, and to issue three notifications setting forth the same, and the time appointed for the said court to convene; and that thereupon the clerk shall immediately cause notifications to be set up in three public places within the county where such seizure is made, giving information of the appointment of such court, and the seizure made, that any person or persons laying claim unto said goods, wares, merchandize, or other articles or things informed against, may file his claim in the clerk's office, first giving bond as is in the said act directed, at least one day before the sitting of the same court, that thereupon a *venire* may issue for taking up a jury for the trial of the said information; and the said court shall proceed as is in said act directed; and if no claim is filed one day previous to the sitting of said court, judgment shall be rendered for the informants.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all bonds, recognizances or other securities, which have already been or shall hereafter be given by any claimant, for the securing of costs, in case he, she or they shall fail in making good their claim, may be sued to an inferior court of common pleas, to be especially called, in the same manner and with the same powers as special courts are usually held.

Whereas, Mr. John Brown, Wm. Richmond and Thomas Holden, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly, assigning certain confiscated estates to Col. Wm. Barton.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee to ascertain and set off certain confiscated estates to Col. William Barton, in discharge of the balance due for depreciation of his wages, do report that we have set off to the said William Barton the

house and lot of land late belonging to Thomas Bannister, lying in Newport, adjoining Thames street in front, and Mr. Charles Handy's back; also forty acres of the east end of the Borland lot, lying in South Kingstown, adjoining the post-road, making the north and south ends both of a width, in full compensation for the balance due to the said William Barton.

JOHN BROWN,  
WILLIAM RICHMOND,  
THOMAS HOLDEN,  
Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; and that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to give to the said William Barton a deed, with warranty, of the aforesaid house and lot in Newport, and also of the said forty acres of the east end of the Borland lot in South Kingstown, conveying unto the said William Barton a clear estate, in fee simple, of the said house and lands, in full compensation for the said balance due unto him.

Whereas, the town treasurer of the town of South Kingstown is committed to gaol for the non-payment of the Continental taxes payable in April and June last; and whereas, this Assembly hath the strongest assurances that the utmost vigilance will be immediately used for collecting and paying the said taxes; and this Assembly being willing to use as much lenity towards the inhabitants of this state as the nature of the case will admit, and it being of the utmost importance that the taxes should be collected as soon as may be,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said town treasurer of South Kingstown be liberated from gaol until the 1st day of October next; that if the said taxes shall be fully paid in by the said 1st day of October next, with the interest due thereon, the said town treasurer be entirely discharged therefrom; and that if the said taxes be not then fully paid, he be committed to gaol by the sheriff on the same executions, there to remain until the same shall be fully paid.

The petition of Mr. Royzel Smith, representing unto this Assembly that he is in arrear for taxes upon the Point Judith farm, hired by him of the state, and that there is due unto him from Benjamin Bourne, Esq., A. D. Q. M. G., a considerable sum of money, and praying this Assembly that the same may be discounted, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be granted; and that the amount of the said Royzel Smith's account, as it may be settled with the said Benjamin Bourne, be discounted out of the taxes due from the said Royzel Smith to this state.

It is voted and resolved, that forty able-bodied, effective men, including the men now stationed at Newport, under the command of Ensign Peirce, be raised, to do duty in the town of Newport, for the space of four months from the time of their enlistment, unless sooner discharged by this Assembly, to be stationed in the said town, or upon the islands adjoining, under the direction of Thomas Haszard, Esq., and the deputies of the said town.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said men be commanded by one lieutenant and one ensign, and receive the same pay and rations as are allowed the officers and soldiers in the Continental service.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said Thomas Haszard and the said deputies, contract with Col. John Topham, or some other person, for the rations to be furnished at the most reasonable rate; that the person who shall be agreed with to furnish the said rations, be paid for the same out of the next state tax; and that the said person so furnishing the rations, receive an order on Captain Christopher Sheldon, of Providence, for two hogsheads of New England rum belonging to the state, to be accounted for.

It is further voted and resolved, that the wages of the said officers and men be paid out of the next state tax, and that certificates made out from the abstracts for the same,

by the auditor, be received by the collectors of taxes in payment of the said taxes.

And it is further voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor commissionate the persons who shall be recommended by the said Thomas Haszard and the said deputies, to command the men aforesaid; and that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., supply the cannon, arms, ammunition and accoutrements, which may be requested by the said Thomas Haszard and the said deputies.

This Assembly having made strict inquiry relative to the suggestion that Messrs. Clark and Nightingale were interested or otherwise concerned in the importation of a parcel of British goods into this country, from Great Britain, by way of Ostend and the West Indies, as communicated to His Excellency the Governor from Robert Morris, Esq., superintendent of finance, founded on an anonymous letter to the president of Congress,—

Do vote and resolve, and it is voted and resolved, in justice to the injured character of the said Clark and Nightingale, that the said suggestion does not appear to be founded on the least degree of evidence; that it is the opinion of this Assembly that the same is wholly groundless, and that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to transmit a copy of this resolution to the delegates of this state in Congress.

Whereas, several towns in this state have neglected to assess the state and Continental taxes, which were to have been paid into the general treasury on or before the 1st day of August inst., and some other towns have neglected to appoint a collector to collect the same;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that a further time, to wit: until the 1st day of October next, be allowed unto the several towns within this state to pay into the general treasury the said taxes, they paying interest therefor from the time the said taxes became due; and that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered to issue warrants for

collecting the same, to any town which shall make application therefor, within fifteen days after the rising of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Benjamin Easton, Robert W. Woodward and Jonathan Lawton, now in the custody of the sheriff, charged with having been concerned in an illicit trade and correspondence with the enemy, be examined and recognized by Thomas Tillinghast, Esq., for their appearance at the next superior court, &c., to be holden in the county of Newport, to answer the same.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the letters and invoices received from Stonington be delivered to the said Thomas Tillinghast, to be by him examined; that such of them be copied as he shall think proper, and that he transmit the originals, by the post, to Mr. Jonathan Waldron, at Stonington.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be allowed sixty pounds, and His Honor the Deputy Governor forty-five pounds, silver money, for their salaries for the last year; and that they be empowered to draw the said sums respectively out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the present collector of taxes for the town of South Kingstown be, and he is hereby, directed to lay before this Assembly, at the next session, the amount of all the taxes against said town, which shall remain uncollected at said session, and also all the rate-streaks which are not then fully paid.

It is voted and resolved, that William Rhodes and Henry Sherburne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the deficiencies of beef in the several towns, ordered last year to be furnished, and likewise what towns furnished more than their proportion of beef, and that they make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer, in re-

newing the state securities, bearing an interest of six per cent. per annum, agreeable to an act of this Assembly, passed at the last session, be directed to limit the payment of the said notes to the term of three years from the date.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Wm. Richmond, for his services in renting farms and setting off confiscated estates .....	5 8 0
Stephen Potter, for taking estimate of stock driven off Rhode Island.....	6 6 0
Robert Crooke, of Newport, for expenses of expresses.....	53 3 2
Benjamin Bourne, for hire of ox teams to serve in the army of the United States .....	420 0 0
Clarke & Nightingale, for hire of vessel to go to New York as a flag, to bring back prisoners.....	22 12 5
Nathan Miller, for expenses of sloop Nancy, that went as a flag to New York .....	22 12 5
Joseph Peabody, for estimating losses sustained by the inhabitants of Middletown, while the island was in possession of the British.....	7 8 0
John Jenckes, for his services in leasing confiscated estates.....	3 12 0
Col. Levi Hall, for drum heads furnished the state's battalion .....	5 2 0
Thomas Holden, for leasing the state's farms.....	9 0 0
Wm. Waterman, for attendance on sick prisoners from New York....	8 0 0

It is voted and resolved, that the Assembly of the new choice convene at Providence, on the last Monday in October next.

- God save the United States of America.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Providence, on the last Monday in October, 1782.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

Whereas, Brig. Gen. Nathan Miller hath represented unto this Assembly, that a number of the citizens of this state are now languishing in imprisonment at New York, and hath requested this Assembly to grant a flag of truce to effect their release ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to commission a vessel, under the command of William T. Miller, Esq., for the purpose aforesaid ; that the deputy commissary of prisoners in this state, be directed to deliver to the said William T. Miller all the prisoners of war in his care, to be carried to New York in the said flag ; that the said vessel be vitualled at the expense of the state, and that all other expenses attending the said flag be paid by the respective persons whose exchange may be effected.

And it is further voted and resolved, that Mr. Winchel, of Newport, be permitted to proceed in the said flag to New York, under the direction of Robert Crooke, Esq., but not to return again to this state.

The petition of Mrs. Mary Paul, of Newport, widow, preferred unto this Assembly, praying for liberty to go to New York, in order to see her son, and obtain money to relieve her distressed circumstances, and to return again, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Mary Paul be permitted to go to New York in the next flag, under the direc-

tion of Robert Crooke, Esq., and return again to this state; and that she have liberty to bring with her such sums of money as she may be able to obtain, but not to import any goods or other articles whatsoever.

It is voted and resolved, that John Handy, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed auditor of accounts for this state, for the next six months ensuing.

Whereas, Messrs. Andrew Spooner and George Joy, who have just arrived at Newport, in a cartel from New York, have represented unto this Assembly that they left Boston, the place of their nativity, at an early period of their minority, under the advice and direction of their guardians; that the said Andrew Spooner proceeded to Great Britain, and the said George Joy to Nova Scotia; that they have now returned, in order to be permitted to become citizens of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, and prayed for liberty to remain in this state until they may receive an answer from the General Court of the said commonwealth to their application for the privilege of becoming citizens thereof; whereupon,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Andrew Spooner and George Joy be permitted to remain in the town of Newport for the space of one month from this day, under the direction and inspection of Mr. Robert Stevens; and that the said Robert Stevens do not permit them to exceed the limits of the said town, on any pretence whatsoever, unless they obtain permission from the Legislature of the said commonwealth of Massachusetts to reside therein.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if no answer shall be received from the said commonwealth to their application aforesaid, within the space of one month, the commissary of prisoners in this state be, and he is hereby, directed to send the said Andrew Spooner and George Joy in the next cartel which, after the expiration of said term of one month, shall proceed to New York.

Upon the representation of the town of Exeter, made

unto this Assembly, and petition for re-assessing the last Continental tax,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said town of Exeter be, and they are hereby, empowered to assess the said tax again, and to choose new assessors for assessing the same; that in the said assessment, the interest be included to the time said tax is payable; that the former assessment of the said tax be considered as null and void; and that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to issue new warrants for collecting the same.

Whereas, there is a number of poor, maimed persons, who have been soldiers in this state's Continental regiment, but are now discharged from the service by His Excellency Gen. Washington, who hath certified that they are entitled to the provision made by Congress in such cases, by their resolution of the 23d of April last;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Joseph Brown, Henry Sherburne, Archibald Crary and Rouse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to examine into the said matter, and that they report thereon as soon as may be.

Whereas, Thomas Rumriell and Archibald Crary, Esqs., who were appointed a committee to examine into the matters set forth in the petition of Nicholas Spink, representing that a sum of money was due to him as a soldier in Colonel Greene's regiment, &c., reported to this Assembly that the sum of eleven pounds, three shillings and seven pence, silver money, is due to the said Nicholas Spink; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the aforesaid sum of eleven pounds, three shillings and seven pence, silver money, be allowed and paid the said Nicholas Spink out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to consolidate the securities of this state, which have been issued by the

general treasurer in the months of February and March, A. D. 1777, and bearing an interest of four per cent. per annum; that he reduce the said notes to their just value in specie, according to the scale of depreciation established by this Assembly; that all the said notes be reckoned as issuing from the treasury on the day that the last note was dated, with interest at four per cent. per annum; and that the general treasurer give his notes, payable one-half in five years, and the other half in six years, with interest at six per cent. per annum for the same.

The petition of the corporation of the college or university in this state, preferred unto this Assembly, praying that the interest of the money due from the state to the said corporation may be paid to their treasurer, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that one moiety of the interest money due from the state to the said corporation be paid to their treasurer, out of the general treasury, from the money that shall be raised by the next state tax which shall be ordered.

It is voted and resolved, that Gideon Mumford, Rouse J. Helme and Henry Sherburne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft a letter to the governor of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, requesting him to urge upon that state that payment be made to Col. Samuel Aborn, for the hire of his sloop to Mr. John Hopkins, deputy commissary general of prisoners, for the purpose of going to New York as a cartel, for a number of prisoners of war belonging to Massachusetts, in December, A. D. 1782, which Gov. Hancock assured the executive authority of this state that the said Commonwealth would pay.

A certificate, given by the general treasurer unto Mr. Daniel Le Favour, for one hundred and twenty pounds, continental money, in February, A. D. 1778, for a slave, who enlisted into this state's Continental battalions, exhibited

unto this Assembly, and the report of the auditor thereon, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be accepted, and that the amount found due thereon of forty-four pounds, nineteen shillings and ten pence, silver money, be paid the said Daniel Le Favour out of the general treasury.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly that the town treasurer of the town of Richmond is committed to gaol, in the county of Washington, by the general treasurer's execution, for thirty pounds, silver money, the said town of Richmond being in arrear to that amount in the tax of six thousand pounds, payable in June last; and the collector of said town having assured this Assembly that the said sum, together with the interest, shall be collected and paid into the general treasury in one month from this time, and prayed this Assembly to liberate him from gaol, as his maintenance in the said confinement is attended with great expense to the said town:—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the said county be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to release and discharge the said town treasurer from gaol, for the said term of one month.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. John Brown, William Ellery and John Dexter, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft instructions to the delegates of this state in Congress, and that they report the same as soon as may be.

On the application of James Lovett, Esq., late D. Q. M. G.—

It is voted and resolved, that he be directed, in the settlement of his accounts with individuals, to conform himself invariably to the resolutions of Congress and the orders of his superior officers, for the time he sustained that office, respecting the same; and that he allow no account but what shall be vouched in the manner that the said resolutions or orders prescribe.

Whereas, His Excellency the Governor is officially informed that the French troops, under the command of His Excellency the Compte de Rochambeau, are on their march, and will pass through Providence on their route, and that it is the request of the said Comte de Rochambeau that suitable quarters may be provided for the officers while they remain in Providence; and that some person may be appointed to wait on Monsieur Beville, Mareshall General de Logis, to point out to him the quarters which may be provided;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the town council of Providence be, and they are hereby, requested immediately to provide the necessary quarters for the officers of said army.

And it is further voted and resolved, that Colonel Daniel Tillinghast and Major John Whipple be requested to assist the said town council in providing the same; and that one of the said gentlemen wait on Monsieur Beville, at Waterman's tavern in Coventry, and inform him of the quarters which may be prepared for the accommodation of the officers of the French army as aforesaid.

Upon the request and application of the tribe of Indians living in Charlestown,—

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins, Esq., be added to the former committee, (Stephen Hopkins and Joseph Hoxsie, Esqs.,) heretofore appointed to take care of the lands belonging to said tribe, and supervise their affairs, and that the said committee be vested with the same powers as mentioned in the resolve first appointing the said committee.

Upon the abstract for sauce-money due to Col. Archibald Crary's regiment, exhibited unto this Assembly,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said abstract be referred to Col. Henry Sherburne, for examination; that he compare the same with the vouchers, and report thereon as soon as may be.

Whereas, William Parker, Francis Robinson, John Slocum, Jabez Pratt and Bristol Rhodes, formerly soldiers in this state's Continental regiment, have been discharged by His Excellency Gen. Washington, and obtained certificates that they are entitled to the allowances ordered by Congress, agreeable to their resolutions of the 23d day of April last; and whereas, this Assembly have made provision for the paying of the said soldiers up to the time of their discharge; and whereas, the aforesaid soldiers are made out in their respective abstracts, which have been forwarded to the war office for payment; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to write to Colonel Jeremiah Olney, informing him of the resolution of this Assembly, with respect to the aforesaid soldiers, and desiring him, if the money should be sent forward for the payment of the aforesaid wages, to receive the same, to and for the use of this state.

Whereas, Joseph Brown, Henry Sherburne, Rouse J. Helme and Archibald Crary, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit :

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly relative to allowances to divers disabled soldiers.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed by the General Assembly a committee to inquire into, examine and make report upon the petitions and applications of divers soldiers, who late belonged to the Continental battalion of this state, and who have presented themselves for relief, do report, that it appears that His Excellency General Washington, on the 1st day of September last, discharged William Parker, a soldier in this state's Continental battalion, as unfit for field or garrison duty, he being ruptured and worn out in the service; and that there was due to the said Wm. Parker, for wages in arrear at the time of his discharge, forty-two pounds, silver money, twenty-six pounds of which was due before the 1st day of January last, and sixteen pounds became due since.

It also appears that Francis Robinson, a soldier, was discharged in like manner, on the 15th day of September last, from the corps of invalids, who had been transferred from this state's Continental regiment, as unfit for field or garrison duty, on account of a fractured arm; and that there was due to the said Francis Robinson, for wages in arrear and unpaid at the time of his discharge, the sum of forty-one pounds, silver money, twenty-four pounds of which was due before the 1st day of January last, and seventeen pounds became due since.

It also appears that John Slocum, a soldier, was discharged in like manner, on the 1st day of September last, from the corps of invalids, who had been transferred from this state's Continental regiment, as unfit for field or garrison duty, on account of the loss of a leg; that the said John Slocum hath been paid his wages up to the 1st of January last, and that there is now due unto him, for wages in arrear to the time of his discharge, sixteen pounds, silver money.

It also appears that Jabez Pratt, a soldier, was discharged in like manner, on the 1st day of September last, from this state's Continental battalion, as unfit for field or garrison duty; and that there was due to the said Jabez Pratt, at the time of his discharge, for wages in arrear, the sum of forty-six pounds, silver money, thirty pounds of which was due before the 1st day of January last, and sixteen pounds became due since.

It also appears that Bristol Rhodes, a soldier, was discharged in like manner, on the 1st day of September last, from this state's Continental regiment, as unfit for field or garrison duty, he having lost a leg and an arm at the siege of Yorktown; and that there was due to the said Bristol Rhodes, at the time of his discharge, for wages in arrear, the sum of thirty-nine pounds, silver money, twenty-three pounds of which was due before the 1st day of January last, and sixteen pounds became due since.

Your committee would represent that the above mentioned persons are discharged, and entitled to receive the allowances ordered by Congress, agreeable to their resolution of the 23d of April last, which resolution your committee hath not been favored with; but by information which they have received from Ezekiel Cornell, Esq., one of the delegates from this state, the allowance from Congress is, that each soldier who shall receive a discharge in the manner aforesaid, shall be entitled to receive from the time of his discharge five silver dollars per month, during his natural life, from the state for which he entered as a soldier, which sum is to be charged to the United States, and to be by them particularly credited to each respective state.

Your committee further represent, that by the resolutions of Congress, after the 1st day of January last Congress undertook to pay and clothe the army, for which purpose large requisitions have been made upon this state, and the monies have been and now are collecting from the inhabitants for that purpose.

Your committee must confess that, although they are sensibly affected with the sight of a number of mutilated and infirm persons, who have lost their limbs and health in the service of their country, they are incapable of pointing out any immediate relief, as the treasury of this state is exhausted, and must leave it to the united wisdom of this Assembly to effect it.

And your committee would likewise observe, that they conceive it prudential that the money which is now due to the unhappy persons, may be so disposed of (when obtained,) that it may tend to relieve them in their unhappy circumstances, and carry them through life in such a manner as will be comfortable to themselves, and not to be squandered away in a manner which persons who have not the fullest consideration of their real circumstances may be induced to.

All which is submitted by

JOSEPH BROWN,  
HENRY SHERBURNE,  
R. J. HELME,  
A. CRARY,  
Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; and that the sums found due to the said persons

be paid them respectively, out of the general treasury, one-half of which to be paid immediately, and the remaining half in three months.

Upon the petition of Job Bennett, Esq., preferred unto this Assembly, praying that a grant of money may be made him for a dwelling house, which was taken down by the commanding officer at Newport, in the year 1776, in order to erect the north battery; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that Thomas Freebody, William Richmond and James Tew, Jr., Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the same; and that they, by the best means in their power, ascertain the value of the said house, and report thereon at the next session of this Assembly.

Whereas, the town of Newport neglected to assess their quota of the Continental tax, payable in June last, within the time prescribed by the act of this Assembly for assessing the same, and have prayed this Assembly to grant them a further time for the assessing, levying and collecting the same;—

It is thereupon voted and resolved, that the said town of Newport be empowered to assess the said tax; that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to issue his warrant for collecting the same; that the same be paid into the general treasury on or before the last Thursday in November, A. D. 1782; and that the treasurer of the said town of Newport, who is now confined by an execution from the general treasurer, for the non-payment of the said tax, be, and he is hereby, liberated from gaol.

Whereas, from the great scarcity of circulating cash, it hath become extremely difficult, in many towns within this state, to collect the taxes assessed upon the inhabitants thereof within the time prescribed, by means whereof many of the town treasurers of the different towns have been committed to gaol; and this Assembly having the greatest

assurance that the most vigilant exertions will be made in order to collect the same, wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that all the town treasurers who now stand committed to gaol for the deficiencies of the state or Continental taxes, be, and they are hereby, liberated from the respective gaols where they are committed, until the last Thursday in November, A. D. 1782; that in the meantime the collectors use their utmost exertions, in order to collect the deficient taxes, with the interest, and pay the same into the general treasury; and that in case any of the towns shall be delinquent at the time last mentioned, the sheriffs be, and they hereby are, directed to re-commit them to gaol, there to remain until the same shall be paid.

And it is further voted and resolved, that all the proceedings of the special courts, against the collectors and their bondsmen, be stayed until said last mentioned time.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the general treasurer do not issue his warrants of distress against the town treasurers of any of the towns within this state, for delinquency in not paying in the last state or Continental tax, until after the said last Thursday in November, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Whereas, the officers of this state's Continental battalion, for themselves, the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that by an act of the General Assembly, passed in February, A. D. 1781, they were put in possession of certain farms, lots of land and houses, in discharge of balances due to them for services in the second Continental regiment of this state, commanded by Col. Angell; that the general treasurer was directed to make out deeds to them for the said estates, but for reasons to them unknown no deeds have yet been given for one of said farms, and several of the said lots and houses; and thereupon prayed that the general treasurer may be directed to give their committee good and lawful deeds of the said estates; and that in case the General Assembly

cannot order the deeds to be made unto them for the estates before mentioned, that they will order other estates to be set off to their committee, in lieu thereof, to the same amount as the former estates were appraised at, in any part of the state except the Point Judith farm; which being duly considered, and it appearing that the farm on the north end of Jamestown is under incumbrances, and that it is uncertain in whom the fee of the said estate is vested,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that so much of the three-fourth parts of the estate in Tiverton, late belonging to the heirs of Andrew Oliver, Esq., commonly called the Aquacut estate, but now confiscated to and for the use of this state, be set off to the said officers and soldiers, in lieu of the said farm on the north end of Jamestown, as may be equal in value to the said estate; that Peleg Arnold and Pardon Gray, Esqs., and Mr. Richard Searle, be, and they are hereby, appointed, by and with the consent of the said officers and soldiers, a committee to ascertain the comparative value of the said estate.

It is further voted and resolved, that if the said three-fourths of the said estate in Tiverton shall not be equal in value, in the opinion of the said committee, to the estate in Jamestown, in such case the committee are hereby empowered to appraise any confiscated estates in the town of Newport, and assign so much of any of such estates as shall be equal to the said surplus value.

It is further voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to give and execute, in behalf of this state, deeds and conveyances in fee simple, with warranty, of the estates heretofore assigned to the said officers and soldiers, (excepting the said estate on the north end of Jamestown,) and also of such part of the said three-fourths of the said Aquacut estate, and such other estates as the said committee may assign as aforesaid.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the committee

aforesaid be, and they are hereby, appointed to make partition of the said Aquacut estate, between the state and Andrew Spooner and Louisa Oliver, who claim the remaining quarter of said estate,—the said Andrew Spooner and Louisa Oliver agreeing, by their attorneys, that partition shall be so made, which partition shall be binding and conclusive between the said parties.

Provided, nevertheless, that the said partition shall not be construed to effect the merits of the information of the attorney general, against the said quarter part of the said estate, now pending in the superior court.

An Act for the more speedy collecting the rates and taxes assessed upon lands lying within this state, the proprietors whereof do not reside within the same.

[For this act at length, see printed schedule.]

It is voted and resolved, that Caleb Harris, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to survey the Aquacut estate, in order that partition thereof may be made, and a deed given of a part thereof, agreeable to the resolve of this Assembly.

Whereas, it appears, on inquiry into the escape of one William Prentice, who was apprehended and in custody for being concerned in an illicit trade with the enemy, and going to New York without leave, that the superior court were particularly strict and pointed in their orders to the sheriff, for the safe custody of the said William Prentice, and granted him no other indulgences than such as were prudent and necessary at the time ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the conduct of the said superior court, relative to their examination of the said William Prentice, and their orders to the executive officers for his safe keeping, be, and the same is hereby, approved.

It is voted and resolved, that the further inquiry into the

causes of the escape of William Prentice, be referred to the next session of this Assembly.

Whereas, during the time of paper bills passing as a circulating medium, from their depreciated value, it became necessary to enlarge the jurisdiction of the justices' courts, for the trial of civil or common law causes, from forty shillings to one hundred pounds; and whereas, since the paper currency hath been struck out of circulation, some justices of the peace have been induced to believe that their jurisdiction still extended to try causes to the amount of one hundred pounds in specie; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that all the acts of this General Assembly, passed since the 19th day of April, A. D. 1775, enlarging the jurisdiction of the justices of the peace for trial of civil or common law causes, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the justices of the peace within this state may take jurisdiction of civil or common law causes to the amount of six pounds in specie, and no more, any law, custom or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Whereas, Mr. Abraham Barker, of Tiverton, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that while the enemy were in possession of the island of Rhode Island, many buildings belonging to him and his brethren were occupied by our troops and destroyed; that of the said buildings he saved part of the timber, which, with some other materials, he consented should be used in erecting two small barracks near his dwelling house; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to relinquish the right the public hath to the said buildings; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that all the right and interest in the said buildings, belonging to the United States, be, and the same are hereby, relinquished to the petitioner and his brothers.

Whereas, Robert Stoddard, formerly an inhabitant of this

state, who hath been in the British service, hath lately returned to the same from Long Island; and whereas, the said Robert Stoddard was ordered to depart the state by this Assembly, at their session in August last, which order he hath not complied with;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Robert Stoddard depart this state within twenty days from this 2d day of November; that in case he shall not comply with this order, the sheriff of the county of Washington be, and he is hereby, directed to cause the said Robert Stoddard to be removed forthwith out of this state; and that the secretary transmit a copy of this vote to the said sheriff immediately.

Upon the request of Lieut. Col. Commandant Jeremiah Olney, for a committee to be appointed to meet a committee of officers from this state's Continental battalion,—

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins, Thomas Rumreill and Benj. Bourne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee, in behalf of this state, to meet the committee of officers which shall be appointed for the settlement of accounts.

It is voted and resolved, that Benjamin Reynolds, Joseph Burdick, Joseph Burdick, Jr., Nicholas Vincent, Daniel Burdick, Luke Burdick, Henry Saunders, Marsh Lewis, Thurston Kinyon and Joshua Tanner, all of Hopkinton, be, and they are hereby, permitted to subscribe the test, before the town council of said Hopkinton, provided they shall adjudge that they are not enemies to the United States of America.

Whereas, Mr. John M'Nicoll preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that in the time of Gen. Sullivan's expedition against Rhode Island, he was owner of a certain sloop which was taken into the public service, and in a violent gale of wind stove to pieces and lost near the South Ferry; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to make him some allowance therefor; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to give his pro missory note, with interest, to the said John M'Nicoll, for fifty-two pounds, four shillings, payable in one year from the date, which sum is agreeable to the appraisement of the said vessel by indifferent persons, and the auditor's report thereon.

The committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following draft of instructions, to be given to the delegates of this state in Congress, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
to draft instructions for the Delegates in Congress.*

That the delegates of this state be, and they are hereby, instructed to preserve and cultivate a good understanding with each other.

To pay a strict regard to the instructions which from time to time may be given to them from this General Assembly.

To contend earnestly for this state's proportion of vacant or back lands.

To press the redemption of the outstanding Continental bills of credit.

To adhere closely to the articles of confederation.

To exert themselves against half pay to retiring officers, or to officers who shall continue in service during the war.

To obtain a regulation of the weight and value of gold and silver coins, and to fix the standard of weights and measures throughout the United States.

To not to accept of any post or place of profit under Congress, or any servant of Congress, nor receive any emolument from any such office, held by another, until six months after they shall have resigned their office as delegate, and the same shall have been accepted by the General Assembly of this state, or they shall have been for that time discharged therefrom by their constituents; and that they use their influence to get a resolution of Congress passed, that none of their members shall have a like office until six months after they cease to be members.

To vindicate and support, with a becoming firmness, on all occasions, such of the acts of the General Assembly of this state as respect the United States at large, and to use their utmost exertions to prevent any infringement being made on the sovereignty and independence thereof.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said draft be, and the same is hereby, approved; and that the secretary cause a fair copy of the same to be made, and transmitted to the delegates of this state as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer of this state be, and he is hereby, directed to borrow a sufficient

sum of money to pay Col. Jeremiah Olney's order upon the treasury, for the payment of the soldiers' wages; that he give his notes therefor, payable upon demand, with interest; and that the lenders of the said money be paid out of the first monies that shall be lodged in the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that the draft of a letter, to be signed by the speaker of the lower house, to the speaker of the house of representatives of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, be, and the same is hereby, approved.\*

It is voted and resolved, that Nathan Miller, William Rhodes and Thomas Rumreill, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to make sale of the estate called the Point Judith farm, lying in South Kingstown; the Rome farm and the Moffatt farm, so called, lying in North Kingstown; the Boone farm, so called, lying in Exeter; all which estates have been confiscated, and belong to the state; that the said estates be sold either at public or private sale; that previous to the sale, they be advertised in

\**Speaker of the House of Representatives of Rhode Island, to the Speaker of the House of Deputies of Massachusetts.*

In General Assembly, November 2, 1782.

Gentlemen:—We are much surprised by an application made to us by Col. Samuel Aborn, for the payment of the charter party of the sloop Polly, which was hired by Major John Hopkins, as a flag, to proceed, with prisoners from your commonwealth, to New York.

Mr. Aborn hath informed us that he hath made several applications to Major Hopkins for the money, but was informed that he could not pay him; that he presented a petition to you for payment thereof, but without effect.

We presume that if you were acquainted with the circumstances, that Mr. Aborn would be immediately paid the debt. In November, 1781, His Excellency Gov. Hancock wrote a letter to the Hon. Lieut. Gov. Bowen, informing him that Major Hopkins, with a number of prisoners, were coming into this state, in order to send them to New York. In consequence of the credit of Gov. Hancock's letter, the council of war granted the payment to Mr. Aborn. We have inclosed a copy of Gov. Hancock's letter, with other documents, to show that it is a proper debt of your state. We cannot imagine that any hesitation will be made with respect to the payment of Mr. Aborn's demand, as what was done by us, was only to facilitate Mr. Hopkins in getting his prisoners off, and bringing back a number of the citizens of your state, who were in a very sickly and distressed situation. Humanity dictated us to assist them, and we were at upwards of one hundred pounds specie in administering to their relief.

We must request that such attention be paid unto Mr. Aborn's application, that upon any future occasion, we may readily join in lending that friendly and sisterly assistance which always ought to exist between neighboring states.

I am, gentlemen, with great esteem and respect, your most obedient servant,

B. BOURNE, Clerk.

To the Speaker of the House of Deputies of Massachusetts.

the Newport and Providence newspapers; that the public sale of the said estates, (unless previously disposed of at private sale,) commence on the second Monday of December next, and continue until the whole are sold; that in payment of the purchase money, the said committee receive specie, or the bills emitted by this state in June, A. D. 1780, funded on the said estates; and that the said committee be empowered to sell the said estates either entire, or in smaller lots, as they shall think best.

It is further voted and resolved, that the said committee be, and they are hereby, empowered to dispose of, either at public or private sale, the one-half of the stone wind-mill lot, late Thomas Banister's, lying in Newport, belonging to this state; that the said committee be empowered to make partition of the said lot, between the state and Mr. Nathaniel Briggs, who is in possession of the other half of the said lot, previous to said sale; that the said committee be also empowered to sell, in like manner, the real estate late Rome's, on the Point, in Newport, consisting of a lot, wharf, stores, &c.; that the said moiety of said Banister's lot, and Rome's lot, wharf, stores, &c., be sold for specie only; that the sale thereof commence next after the sale of the estates first mentioned, and be continued until the whole shall be disposed of; and that, on the payment of the purchase money for any of the said estates, the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to make and execute unto the purchaser or purchasers a deed or deeds, conveying the fee simple of the said estates, with warranty.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the money arising from the sale of the said estates in Newport, as well as the other estates, be paid into the general treasury; and that so much of the amount of the said estates in Newport, be appropriated to the discharge of the orders on the treasury for the payment of the wages due to this state's Continental battalion, as will be sufficient to discharge the said orders.

Whereas, by the militia law of this state, a general re-

view of the militia thereof is to take place within the course of the month of November, A. D. 1782; and as the calling out the militia upon such an occasion will be only a loss of time,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said general review, for this year, be, and the same is hereby, postponed.

Whereas, Congress, by their resolution of the 11th ult., have recommended that Thursday, the 28th day of November, A. D. 1782, should be observed throughout the United States as a day of solemn thanksgiving to God, for all His mercies, and have requested the several states to interpose their authority in appointing and commanding the observation of the said day accordingly; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to issue his proclamation for the due observance of the said day, in conformity to the said resolution of Congress.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£	s.	d.
John Waterman, quartermaster, balance due.....	53	7	9
Joseph Button, a wounded soldier.....	38	0	0
John Anthony, a disabled soldier.....	30	2	0
George Lawton, a wounded soldier, arrearages of pay.....	6	0	0
Abijah, widow of Samuel Cushing, who was slain in battle.....	19	11	0
Lieut. Col. George Peck, for pay abstract of a beacon guard kept at Cum- berland.....	76	16	0
Benjamin Bourne, for adjusting claims against absentees' estates.....	9	9	0
Richard Fry, sheriff of Kent county, for erecting a pillory.....	4	8	4
John Russell, for delivering beef belonging to the state.....	5	0	0
John Russell, for services of himself and assistants in keeping the magazine guard in Providence.....	53	5	4

It is voted and resolved, that this Assembly be, and hereby is, adjourned to the last Monday in November, A. D. 1782, then to meet at East Greenwich.

God save the United States of America.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at East Greenwich, on the last Monday in November, 1782.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

Whereas, Thomas Holden and Rufus Hopkins, Esqs., and Mr. John Williams, presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly, to adjust the debts and credits, divide the poor, &c., of the towns of Scituate and Foster.*

The subscribers, Thomas Holden, chairman, Rufus Hopkins, Stephen Kimball and William Rhodes, a committee on the part of the present town of Scituate, and John Williams, Timothy Hopkins and Joseph Davis, a committee on the part of the town of Foster, being a committee appointed and empowered by the General Assembly, at December session, A. D. 1781, to adjust the debts and credits, divide the poor, &c., of the said two towns, do report that we have met upon said business, made several adjournments, notified the inhabitants of the said towns of our several meetings and adjournments, received and examined the several claims and demands exhibited against the said towns, and adjusted, settled and determined all matters and things relative to the late division of the said towns, agreeable to the tenor and meaning of our appointment, as by our original proceedings now on file in the respective town clerks' offices of the said two towns may appear.

THOMAS HOLDEN, Chairman,

RUFUS HOPKINS, in behalf of the committee of the town of Scituate.

JOHN WILLIAMS, in behalf of the committee of the town of Foster.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of forty-two pounds, and two pence three farthings, silver money, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, agreeable to the auditor's report, to Mr. Griffin Greene, for a slave late belonging to

Mr. Robert Champlin, who enlisted into the Continental service in the year 1778.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of thirty-nine pounds, seven shillings and nine pence half-penny, silver money, be allowed and paid out of the general treasury, agreeable to the auditor's report, to Mr. Josiah Smith, for a slave late belonging unto him, who enlisted into the Continental army in the year 1778.

It is voted and resolved, that Thomas Haszard, Esq., Mr. John Brown, William Ellery and Rouse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft an address to His Excellency Count Rochambeau, he being about to embark for France.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to give his promissory note to the soldiers who served in the Continental battalions of this state for the term of three years, or to their assignees, for the amount of the balances due to them respectively, agreeable to the report of the committee who settled their depreciation accounts; that said notes carry compound interest, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, from the 1st day of next December, and that they be made payable in four years from said time.

It is voted and resolved, that the committee's draft of an address to His Excellency the Count Rochambeau, be, and the same is hereby, approved; that the secretary make out a fair copy thereof; that His Excellency the Governor be requested to sign the same, and that it be countersigned by the secretary, and forthwith transmitted to the said Count Rochambeau.

It is voted and resolved, that Rouse J. Helme, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed and empowered to prosecute all persons who have made waste, or committed trespasses on any of the forfeited estates belonging to this state, by cutting and carrying off the wood, or otherwise.

Whereas, Lieut. Col. Commandant Jeremiah Olney laid before this Assembly the following representation, to wit:

*Report of Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney, relative to the depreciation money due several officers and soldiers in the Rhode Island Continental Regiment.*

List of balances due to William Ennis, an ensign, and to the following non-commissioned officers and privates of the Rhode Island Continental regiment, for depreciation on their pay to August, A. D. 1780, who, having re-engaged in service for the term of three years, in the year 1781, were assured by the state that their respective balances should be paid them in the same manner as those due to the officers and soldiers who are engaged for the war, to wit: one-quarter part in money, and the other three-quarter parts in confiscated estates.

	£ s. d.
William Ennis, ensign.....	71 3 6
Samuel Cranston, sergeant.....	73 9 10
James Mitchell, " "	52 4 8
Toby Choyes, private.....	50 4 9
Charles Crosbec, "	18 16 1
James Hars, "	52 17 10
Sam'l Merithew, "	24 8 7
John Targee, "	46 18 9
Solomon Caesar, "	47 12 2
John George, "	46 7 5
Benjamin Wiley, "	42 18 8
Solomon Ropbee, "	53 5 9
Jehu Pomp, "	49 10 2
	<hr/>
	£629 18 2
Deduct one-quarter part, the General Assembly having given orders on the general treasurer for the same, but no provision has yet been made for discharging the other three-quarter parts.....	157 9 6
	<hr/>
	£472 8 8

Providence, May 25, 1782.

The subscriber begs leave to represent to the Honorable the General Assembly that the abovenamed officers and soldiers have frequently expressed an uneasiness at their balances not being settled, agreeable to the promise I made them in behalf of the state, at the time of their re-entering the service; I do therefore, in their behalf, request the Honorable General Assembly to take the matter into their wise consideration at their next session, and make provision for the payment of the said balances, in real estate or otherwise, which will afford great satisfaction to each of the abovenamed persons.

I have the honor to be, with esteem, gentlemen,

Your obedient and very humble servant,

JEREMIAH OLNEY,

Lieut. Col. Commandant Rhode Island Regiment.

To the Honorable the General Assembly.

And the said representation being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that Nathan Miller, William Rhodes and Thomas Rumreill, Esqs., the committee appointed at the last session of this Assembly to sell certain confiscated estates, be, and they are hereby, appointed and empowered to set off and assign unto the said persons or their assignees, some confiscated estate, which shall be equal in value to the said balances of four hundred and seventy-two pounds, eight shillings and eight pence, silver money, due on account of depreciation of their wages; that the said committee also set off, at the same time, some confiscated estate, which shall be equal in value to the sum of one hundred and seventeen pounds, one shilling and two pence, one farthing, silver money, being a balance due to Ensign Ezekiel Cooke, on account of the depreciation of his wages; and that the said committee make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the address to His Excellency the Count Rochambeau, and his answer thereto, be published in the Newport and Providence newspapers, of which the following are copies, to wit:

*To His Excellency Count de Rochambeau, commander of the army  
of His Most Christian Majesty in the United States.*

The Governor, Council and Representatives of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, in General Assembly convened, being excited by the sincerest attachment and respect, present their most affectionate and cordial acknowledgments to your Excellency, and the officers and troops composing the army under your command, for the great and eminent services rendered since your first arrival in this state.

Nothing can equal our admiration at the manner in which you have participated with the army of the United States, in the fatigues, the toils and the glory, that have attended the allied arms, but the magnanimity of the Father of His people, and the Protector of the rights of mankind.

Our inquietude at the prospect of your removal would be inexpressible, but from the fullest conviction of the wisdom that directs the councils of His Most Christian Majesty.

May Heaven reward your exertions in the cause of Humanity, and the particular regard you have paid to the rights of the citizens; and may your laurels be crowned by the smiles of the best of kings, and the grateful feelings of the most generous people.

Done in General Assembly, at East Greenwich, this 27th day of November, A. D. 1782, and in the seventh year of independence.

I have the honor to be, in behalf of the Council and Representatives,

With great esteem and respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

WILLIAM GREENE, Governor.

By order: SAMUEL WARD, D. Secretary.

*To the Governor, Council and Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.*

Providence, November 28, 1782.

Gentlemen:—It is with an inexpressible pleasure, that I and the troops under my command have received the marks of esteem and of acknowledgment, which you are so good as to give to the services which we have been happy enough to render to the United States, jointly with the American army, under the orders of General Washington.

This state is the first we have been acquainted with. The friendly behavior of its inhabitants now, and at our arrival here, will give them always a right to our gratitude.

The confidence you have in the wisdom of the views of our sovereign, as to the disposition and the march of his troops, must likewise assure you that on no occasion whatever he will separate his interests from those of his faithful allies.

LE COMTE DE ROCHAMBEAU.

It is voted and resolved, that the attorney general be, and he is hereby, directed to file an information in the clerk's office of the superior court in the county of Newport, against those parts of the real estate of James Honyman, deceased, which were devised to Penelope Bisset, wife of George Bisset, clerk, to Elizabeth Wanton, wife of William Wanton, and to the children of the late Joseph Wanton, Jr.; and also an information in the clerk's office of the superior court in the county of Kent, against the estate of Henry Reynolds; and that the said clerks issue citations for the claimants to appear at the next superior courts to be holden in the said counties, agreeable to law.

And it is further voted and resolved, that informations in future against estates liable by law to confiscation, be filed in the clerks' offices of the superior courts in the respective counties, and that thereupon the said clerks issue public notifications for the appearance of the claimants to the next superior court which shall be holden in said county,—any-

thing in the act for confiscating the estates of the persons therein described to the contrary notwithstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that John Jenckes and Esek Hopkins, Esqs., and Mr. Paul Allen, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to settle and adjust the accounts of the general treasurer with this state, and that they report thereon as soon as may be.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that Mr. John Bannister is indebted to a considerable amount to the estate of Thomas Bannister, an absentee, whose estate is forfeited, and has been confiscated to this state ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the attorney general be, and he is hereby, directed to make inquiry into said matter, and proceed as soon as may be, by suit at law or otherwise, to recover the said debt in behalf of this state, in the name of the general treasurer.

It is voted and resolved, that the estate of Thomas Hazard, an absentee, which has been confiscated to and for the use of this state, be, and the same is hereby, surrendered to the creditors of the said Thomas Hazard.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if any of said estate should remain after the just demands against the same shall be satisfied, in such case Mrs. Eunice Hazard, the wife of the said Thomas Hazard, shall hold the residue in fee simple.

Provided, nevertheless, she first pay into the general treasury of this state the amount of a debt due from the said estate to Martin Howard, Jr., an absentee.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that before the present war took place, there were several tracts of land, lying in the town of Exeter, in the now county of Washington, which were sold by the sheriff of said county to sundry persons, for money then due to the state, upon mortgage deeds, bonds, &c., and no deeds given of said lands, nor any money paid ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Geo. Peirce, Esq.,

of said Exeter, be, and he is hereby, appointed to inspect into said matter, and make report thereon to this Assembly of the several tracts of land, and the sums which the same sold for, as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Newport be, and he is hereby, directed forthwith to apprehend George Joy, late from New York, now at Newport and him safely secure in gaol until he shall be discharged by order of this Assembly, or due course of law; and that the said sheriff also secure his papers.

Whereas, it is represented by the justices of the superior court, &c., that there are several persons who have been apprehended on suspicion of carrying on an inimical correspondence with the enemy at New York, and are now confined in gaol in the county of Providence; that it appears on the examination of the said prisoners, that they are inhabitants of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, and that a very considerable number of other citizens of said commonwealth are accused by them of being concerned in said correspondence;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that William Channing, Esq., attorney general, be requested to apply to the governor or attorney general of said commonwealth, and inform them thereof, and request that they will give orders for the sending for the said prisoners to the said commonwealth for trial.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Providence be directed to deliver the said prisoners to the order of His Excellency Gov. Hancock, or any other person properly authorized to receive them.

Whereas, it hath been represented unto this Assembly that Benjamin Durfee hath been convicted of being concerned in an illicit trade with the enemy, and was sentenced to pay a fine of fifteen pounds, silver money, and cost of prosecution and conviction, and also to be confined for the space of six months in the town of Foster; and whereas,

ince the said conviction, the said Benjamin Durfee hath given very important information to the authority of this state, which may tend to the detection of other persons who have been concerned in the said illicit trade; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that upon the said Benjamin Durfee's paying the said fine and cost of prosecution, agreeable to the sentence aforesaid, he be discharged from his confinement in the said town of Foster.

It is voted and resolved, that the book purchased for the use of this state, for entering the monies ordered to be paid out of the general treasury, be delivered unto the auditor of accounts; that he keep the same during the sitting of the General Assembly in the lower house, and make fair entries herein of all monies voted, and to whom.

Whereas, the General Assembly, at October session, A. D. 1775, did order and direct Stephen Arnold, Esq., of Warwick, to pay the sum of fifteen pounds, silver money, into the general treasury, in order to defray the expenses which accrued in dispersing the rioters who assembled with the aid Stephen Arnold, which money hath not been paid; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Stephen Arnold immediately pay into the hands of the sheriff of the county of Kent, or his deputy, the sum of fifteen pounds, silver money, with the interest from said time, in order that the same may be lodged in the general treasury. And in case the said Stephen Arnold shall refuse or neglect so to do, the said sheriff or his deputy is hereby directed to have the said Stephen Arnold forthwith before this Assembly now sitting.

Whereas, two six-pound cannon were taken some time since out of the boat belonging to Thomas Aldrich, Esq., which cannon were the property of Joseph and William Wanton, absentees, and are now in East Greenwich;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Archibald Crary,

Esq., make sale of the said cannon, together with such others as shall be pointed out to him by Mr. John Brown and Rufus Hopkins, Esq., at public vendue, in the said town of East Greenwich, on Wednesday, the 4th of December, A. D. 1782, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and that he render an account of the sales thereof to this Assembly.

Whereas, Stephen Arnold, Esq., hath been apprehended and brought before this Assembly, in consequence of his neglecting to pay the sum of fifteen pounds, silver money, into the general treasury, in pursuance of a former order of this Assembly, and the said Stephen Arnold having since paid the said sum,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said Stephen Arnold be, and he is hereby, discharged from any further attendance upon this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Thomas Rumreill, Nathan Miller and William Rhodes, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed to make sale of the two Borland lots not disposed of in the town of South Kingstown, which have been confiscated to and for the use of this state, at public vendue, immediately after the sale of the other state lands in the county of Washington; that they receive in payment therefor the certificates signed by Charles Holden, Esq., or gold and silver; and that the same be advertised in the next Newport and Providence newspapers.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to estimate the damages done by the enemy to the public buildings belonging to this state, and the value of the slaves taken from the inhabitants thereof; that Mr. Paul Allen be appointed for the town of Providence, Jonathan Russell, Esq., and Mr. Shearjashub Bourne, for the town of Bristol, and William T. Miller, Esq., for the town of Warren, to estimate the damages done by the enemy to the property of the inhabitants in their respective towns; that they return the same to the secretary within thirty days; and that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq.,

be, and he is hereby, requested to transmit to the secretary for foreign affairs for the United States the estimates of the damages done by the enemy within this state, and reported agreeable to the order of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to issue his executions against the delinquent towns within this state, for the sums due from them respectively of the taxes assessed in this year; that his execution for the January Continental tax issue in fifteen days; the execution for January state tax in twenty days; the execution for February Continental tax in thirty days, and the execution for the June Continental tax in forty days, after the rising of this Assembly; and that the said executions be made returnable in ten days from their respective dates.

And it is further voted and resolved, that it be, and hereby is, recommended to the town clerks of the delinquent towns to convene the inhabitants of their respective towns in town meeting, to inquire into the deficiencies of the taxes, and the causes thereof, and to adopt such measures as may be necessary for the immediate collection of the same.

An Act for consolidating the paper money heretofore issued by this state, and for ascertaining and affixing the value of the notes heretofore issued by the general treasurer, for calling in and sinking the paper bills thereof.

[For this act at length, see printed schedule.]

Whereas, it appears unto this Assembly that some of the classes in this state, to wit: one in Smithfield, seven in Scituate and Foster, two in North Kingstown, four in South Kingstown, one in Hopkinton, seven in Exeter, one in Warwick, two in West Greenwich, and one in Coventry, have not procured recruits to serve three years or during the war, in the army of the United States, pursuant to an act

of this General Assembly, made and passed in November, A. D. 1780, nor paid into the general treasury the sum of ninety pounds, silver money, in lieu thereof, pursuant to acts of this Assembly, made in May, A. D. 1781, and February, A. D. 1782;—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that in case the committees appointed to class the inhabitants within this state, (by virtue of the aforesaid act, made and passed in November, A. D. 1780,) have not made returns of the persons by them classed, the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to issue his execution against the chairman of any of the said committees; but in case the said chairmen have made due returns thereof, that then the general treasurer issue his execution against the person or persons that the said committees have made or shall make returns of, as having the said assessments in their hands, within twenty days from the rising of this Assembly.

And whereas, some of the towns aforesaid have made alterations in the said assessments, by lessening the sum so assessed;—

It is therefore further enacted, that in case such alterations have been made, the committees in the several towns be, and they hereby are, directed to make returns thereof to the general treasurer, as soon as may be, within twenty days from the rising of this Assembly, who, upon receiving the said returns, is hereby directed to issue his execution against the town treasurers of the towns where such alterations have been made, for the amount of such sums as may be reported to have been altered.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that upon any of the returns aforesaid being made, the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed and empowered to issue his execution against any of the aforesaid delinquents for the amount of the sums due, within ten days after he shall receive the same, which executions shall be returnable

within thirty days from their being issued as aforesaid ; and that the said executions be levied and collected in the same manner as the state taxes are.

Whereas, the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., hath represented unto this Assembly, that upon the arrival of the army of His Most Christian Majesty in the town of Providence, and the vicinity thereof, it became necessary for them to be hutt ed in the woodland of North Providence, where a considerable quantity of wood was cut, and damages done unto the lands ; that upon the moving of the said army, a committee was appointed to estimate the damages done unto the proprietors of the said land, who reported the sum of four thousand six hundred silver dollars as damages, which sum the intendant of the said army, and the commissary at war, conceive to be enormous and extravagant ; and as the said committee were obliged to make a precipitate estimation, without taking a sufficient view, and it is indispensably necessary that the strictest justice be done unto the army of our good ally, wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Benjamin Whipple, Jr., Edward Smith and Stephen Olney, all of North Providence, be, and they are hereby, appointed, authorized and required, to go upon the lands and premises aforesaid, and to take a strict view of the same, and to make and estimate the real and just damages done thereunto, and to make report unto the said Jabez Bowen, as soon as may be, what sum ought, in justice and good conscience, to be paid unto the proprietors of the said lands,—which estimation shall be binding upon the said proprietors.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the whole of the monies now paid into the hands of Thomas Arnold, Esq., by the treasurer of the said army, be and remain therein until the report of the said committee be made ; that the said Jabez Bowen be, and he is hereby, directed to order the said money to be paid, agreeable to the report of the

said committee, and that the overplus, if any there be, be paid to the said commissary at war.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Brown, William Ellery, Rouse J. Helme, Nathan Miller and James Arnold, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to devise ways and means for supplying the treasury, and for laying on duties and excises upon superfluous articles ; and that they make report to this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that all the estate of Walter Chaloner, now an absentee, formerly of this state, be, and the same is hereby, surrendered up to and for the use of the said Walter Chaloner's creditors.

It is voted and resolved, that the sum of sixty-six pounds, silver money, be allowed and paid by the general treasurer, out of the next state tax, to Lieut. James Aldrich, (agreeable to the report of a committee,) by him to be paid to the persons who did duty at the beacon guard in Scituate, in the year 1779, agreeable to Major General Gates's orders ; and that the said James Aldrich receive sergeants' pay for his services, which is forty-eight shillings per month.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered to grant, within twenty days from the rising of this Assembly, to such towns as shall apply for the same, warrants to the collectors of taxes in the several towns, for collecting the taxes heretofore ordered, as several towns within the state have neglected to obtain the same.

Whereas, many inconveniences have arisen from the collectors of the several towns within this state being obliged to sell the personal property, by them distrained from the inhabitants that are delinquent in the payment of their taxes, in the towns where such distress hath been made ;—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the several collectors of taxes within this state be, and they are hereby, em-

powered to remove stock or other property by them distrained from any of the inhabitants of this state that are delinquent in the payment of their taxes, to any part of the state where the same may be sold to the best advantage; and that they notify the sale thereof, and dispose of the said property by them taken as aforesaid, with as full power and authority to recover the money arising from the sale thereof, as though the same had been sold at public vendue in the town where such property was distrained.

The petition of Mr. Barber Peckham, of South Kings-town, representing unto this Assembly that at the superior court, &c., held in the county of Washington, in October last, he was indicted for going upon the island of New Shoreham without permission from the authority of this state, and fined the sum of fifteen pounds, silver money, and all the costs of prosecution, and sentenced to stand committed until the same should be paid, and to be removed to the town of Gloucester, there to remain within the limits of the said town for the space of six months; that he was at Point Judith at the time when Capt. Thomas Champlin took a quantity of stock which was going to New Shoreham, together with two whale-boats; that the said Thomas Champlin ransomed one of the boats, and sent your petitioner to New Shoreham, to receive the ransom money; and that he conceived he had a right to give that matter in the evidence to the jury, but the court would not suffer it; and praying this Assembly, as he now stands committed, to remit the said fine, and order him to be discharged from gaol; being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that upon the said Barber Peckham's paying the sum of fifteen pounds, in silver money, or in the bills funded upon real estate, and the costs of prosecution in silver money, into the hands of the sheriff of the county of Washington, to and for the use of this state, and giving bonds for his good behavior for six months, with such security as shall be approved of by Robert Potter, Esq., one

of the justices of the inferior court for the said county, he be discharged from gaol.

And whereas, Zebulon Pendleton stands committed to gaol for the offence of going upon New Shoreham;—

It is further voted and resolved, that upon the said Zebulon Pendleton's paying into the hands of the sheriff of the county of Washington, to and for the use of this state, the sum of fifteen pounds, in gold or silver, or bills emitted by this state funded upon real estate, being the sum he is fined, and the cost of prosecution in silver money, and giving bonds, with ample security, for his good behavior for twelve months, to be approved of by the aforesaid Robert Potter, he also be discharged from gaol.

The petition of Mr. Paris Gardner, of South Kingstown, representing unto this Assembly that he, as a deputy sheriff of the county of Washington, arrested the body of Joshua Randall; that he did not take bail from him, and is now liable to pay the amount of twenty pounds, silver money, and praying this Assembly to give him liberty to go to New Shoreham, in order to get the money of the said Joshua Randall, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Paris Gardner have liberty to go to New Shoreham, and return again, for the purposes aforesaid, under the direction of Rouse J. Helme, Esq.

Whereas, Joseph Brown, William Ellery, James Arnold, Rouse J. Helme and Nathan Miller, Esqs., laid before this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
for devising means to supply the General Treasury.*

The subscribers, being appointed a committee to report upon the expediency and necessity of this state's raising a revenue in a manner different from the present mode of taxation, beg leave to report that we conceive a considerable sum might be raised and put into the treasury by duties and excises which would be almost an imperceptible tax paid by the consumer, the delicacy and nature of which will take a longer time than it is now possible to spare in framing the same. It will be necessary for

our committee to know the laws existing in the neighboring states for laying on duties and excises, in order that the commercial interest of this state should not be affected with unreasonable clogs, and that those articles which are generally consumed by the rich and affluent should be rated as high as they will conveniently bear, that the industrious farmer and mechanic may be relieved. We will endeavor, at the next session of this Assembly, to bring in a bill which will be advantageous to the public, and agreeable to our constituents. In the interim,

We are your very humble servants,

JOSEPH BROWN, R. J. HELME,

WILLIAM ELLERY, NATHAN MILLER,

JAMES ARNOLD, Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted.

It is voted and resolved, that Charles Holden, Esq., late commissary general of purchases for this state, be, and he is hereby, directed to make a return to the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., and John Jenckes, Esq., of all the rum that he purchased on account of this state, that remains in the hands of any person; that the said Jabez Bowen and John Jenckes call on such persons for the said rum, and dispose of the same to the best advantage; and that they deliver the money arising from the sale thereof to Major Coggeshall Olney, to be by him carried forward to Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Olney, to be distributed to his regiment in part of the three months' pay ordered said regiment at last May session.

It is voted and resolved, that Col. Archibald Crary be, and he is hereby, directed to pay the money arising from the sale of this state's cannon, ordered to be disposed of at this session, to the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., and John Jenckes, Esq., who are hereby directed to deliver the same to Major Coggeshall Olney, to be by him carried forward to Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney, to be paid to his regiment, on account of an order given him at last May session for three months' wages for said regiment.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. John Brown be, and he is hereby, appointed to repair the powder house in the town

of Providence, after agreeing with the proprietors thereof for the same, and remove the powder and other public stores from the places in which they are now deposited to the aforesaid magazine, and that he then dismiss the guard now on said stores.

Whereas, Thomas Brattle, Esq., late of Boston, in the commonwealth of Massachusetts, but now residing at Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that previous to the commencement of hostilities in America, he had it in contemplation to visit Europe; that soon after the battle at Lexington, he, with many other friends to American freedom, quitted their business, as well as their property, in Boston, rather than continue subjected to a British government; that on the 9th of May, A. D. 1775, being the day before he left Boston, he applied to the committee of inspection, who gave him a certificate of his friendly conduct in America, and recommended him "to all friends of liberty;" that he prosecuted his intended tour to Europe, where he was honored with the notice and confidence of the American plenipotentiaries, who were pleased to grant him a passport, "as a subject of the United States of America;" that he arrived in this state in November, A. D. 1779, was kindly received, and hath ever since experienced the friendship of the authority thereof; that during his residence in this state, as well as while in Europe, he flatters himself his behavior has been so uniform and undisguised, as must acquit him of the most distant suspicion of harboring a thought detrimental to the honor and independence of America; that while absent, the commonwealth of Massachusetts passed a bill prohibiting the return of certain persons, in which the petitioner was included; that on application to the Massachusetts General Assembly for liberty to return to that commonwealth, they, on a candid inquiry, finding he could not be accused with acting the least unfriendly part toward the American cause, but on the contrary the testimonies of divers inhabitants of this and other

states making it appear that he had done everything in his power to render his country his best services, were pleased to pass a resolve in favor of his return, which has been since reconsidered so far as to be ordered to lie on the table,—it being suggested by some members, that by granting the petition of an innocent person, they might “let down the bars for the guilty;” and that he is assured by some respectable characters in Massachusetts, if application should be made through the Assembly of this state, no difficulty would arise to prevent his returning to his native country in peace; and thereupon the said Thomas Brattle prayed this Assembly to represent his conduct and situation to the Honorable the General Assembly of the said commonwealth, in order that he may be restored to the rights and privileges of a subject of the United States, and an inhabitant of the said commonwealth; which being duly considered,—

It is unanimously voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted; and that James M. Varnum, Thomas Rumreill, Rouse J. Helme and Henry Sherburne, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft a letter to the General Assembly of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, agreeable thereto.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Edward Burnett, a wounded soldier.....	25 10 0
Wm. Anthony, Jr., for services in estimating damage done by the British troops while in possession of Rhode Island.....	3 5 0
Thomas Potter, for same service.....	3 6 0
John Thurston, for same service.....	3 5 0
Richard Searle, for services in setting off lands to officers and soldiers in the Continental battalion.....	3 12 0
Peleg Arnold, for same service .....	3 12 0
Lieut. Chandler Burlingame, balance of his wages.....	51 0 0
Archibald Crary, for removing cannon from Rhode Island to Providence..	2 5 0
Wm. Channing, for adjusting claims against absentees' estates.....	8 15 0
John Brown, for lead delivered to John Randall for the use of the state...	75 2 0
Solomon Southwick, for provisions furnished troops at Newport.....	119 19 0

Solomon Southwick, for provisions furnished Christopher Ellery, for the use of the prisoners of war.....	32	6	9
Lieut. John Carr, pay abstract of his company, which did duty in Newport, from the 1st of September to the 1st of December last.....	135	13	0
Lieut. James Miller, pay abstract, same service, May and June, 1782.....	56	11	0
Ensign John Pearce, pay abstract, same service.....	28	14	3
Lieut. John Carr, pay abstract, same service .....	67	12	3
Lieut. John Pearce, pay abstract, same service.....	50	7	11
Lieut. John Pearce, pay abstract, same service.....	40	12	3

It is voted and resolved, that this Assembly be, and hereby is, adjourned to the last Monday in February next, then to meet at Providence.

God save the United States of America.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Providence, on the last Monday in February, 1783.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that Mrs. Lydia Brown, of Newport, be, and she is hereby, permitted to go to New York in the first cartel vessel, in order to see her husband in that city, and to return again, under the direction of Christopher Ellery, Esq., D. C. G. P.

Whereas, Mrs. Rebecca Platts, of Newport, preferred a petition, and represented unto this Assembly, that her grand-daughter, Esther Keen, who is married at New York, hath remitted for her money, &c., (she being in very indigent circumstances, and greatly advanced in years,) but which said remittances have been frequently intercepted, and hath therefore signified to her grand-mother a desire to come to Newport, and afford her some further relief, pro-

vided she might be allowed to return to New York; and hath therefore prayed this Assembly to permit her said grand-daughter, Esther Keen, to come to Newport, and return; and the same being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Esther Keen be, and she is hereby, permitted to come to Newport, and to return again to New York, under the direction of Christopher Ellery, Esq., D. C. G. P.

To Mrs. Elizabeth Cleaveland, and Miss Sarah Clarke, permission was also granted to go to New York and return.

Mr. Archimedes George, of Newport, had permission to go in a flag of truce to Jamaica, and return.

Whereas, it appears, by information exhibited to this Assembly, that a number of audacious persons, in contempt of all authority of this State, and in direct violation of the laws therein existing, have attempted to subvert the present constitution; and whereas, by the prudent, wise and vigilant exertions of His Honor the Deputy Governor, a considerable number of the most flagrant offenders have been apprehended, and are now confined in gaol; and whereas, it is absolutely necessary that such offenders should receive the most condign punishment;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the attorney general be, and he is hereby, directed to make strict inquiry into the nature of their crimes, and to indict and prosecute them, according to their several offences, at the next superior court of judicature, &c., to be holden in the county of Providence.

And it is further voted and resolved, that James M. Var- num, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to assist the attorney general in said inquiry and prosecution.

It is voted and resolved, unanimously, that the conduct of His Excellency the Governor, in consequence of a memorial addressed to him by Mr. Giles Mumford and others, relative to the high-handed misdemeanor of a certain James

Angell, and others his abettors, who, in an illegal and forcible manner, took and conducted from within the jurisdiction of this state a certain prize vessel, which had been duly captured on the high seas, brought within the jurisdiction of the admiralty of this state, and was then in the possession of the captors, be, and the same is hereby, approved.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to write to His Excellency the Governor of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, and acquaint him with the disorderly and riotous behavior of sundry of the inhabitants of the towns of Uxbridge, Douglas, Dudley, and other towns within the jurisdiction of that commonwealth, in coming into this state, and violently rescuing certain prisoners from the civil authority, while they were on trial, charged with the rescue of some cattle out of the possession of the collector of taxes, who had distrained them for the non-payment of taxes; that he also inform His Excellency Gov. Hancock, of the unlawful assemblies which are frequently had of sundry disaffected and evil-minded persons living in the towns aforesaid, the towns in this state, and the state of Connecticut, adjacent to said towns, for the purpose of obstructing the collection of taxes and impeding the exercise of civil government in the said states respectively; that the Governor be requested to lay said information before the General Assembly of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, in order that some effectual and general measures should be speedily adopted in said states respectively, for the entire and immediate suppression of such unlawful and high-handed offences, and preventing the like in future.

It is voted and resolved, that the term of four months longer be allowed unto Mr. Ariel Cooke, who lately purchased of this state a confiscated estate in Cumberland, to enable him to complete the payment of the purchase money for said estate, provided he pay one-third part of the sum now due thereon immediately into the general treasury;

and that at the expiration of the said period of four months, and on the payment of the whole purchase money into the general treasury as aforesaid, the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to make and execute unto the said Ariel Cooke a good and effectual deed of said estate, in fee simple, with warranty.

Whereas, Mr. Paul Allen, Archibald Crary and Henry Sherburne, Esqs., who were appointed a committee to examine into the amount of the pay due to seven invalid soldiers, who have been discharged by His Excellency General Washington, for disability, have reported that there are due to them respectively, to the times they were severally discharged, the following sums, to wit: To Benoni Taylor, twenty-one pounds, twelve shillings and eight pence; to Simeon White, twenty-one pounds, twelve shillings and eight pence; to Anthony Foster, twenty pounds, nineteen shillings and four pence; to Richard Sephton, eighteen pounds, ten shillings; to Abijah Adam, nineteen pounds, ten shillings; to Joseph Tanner, twenty-seven pounds, nine shillings; and to Samuel Talman, seventeen pounds, ten shillings, lawful money; and the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; that the said sums be allowed unto the aforesigned persons respectively; that one-half thereof be paid to them out of the general treasury, and that the other half be paid by the general treasurer's giving his promissory notes for the same, payable in four years from the date, with an interest of six per cent. per annum.

It is voted and resolved, that the attorney general and James M. Varnum, Esq., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the particular circumstances of the estate late belonging to Thomas Bannister, an absentee, and make report to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, the committee who were appointed to sell certain confiscated estates, made the following report to this Assembly, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
to sell certain confiscated estates.*

We, the subscribers, who were appointed a committee to sell certain confiscated estates, beg leave to report that, agreeable to our appointment, we have sold at public auction the following estates, to wit:

The state's part of the north Borland lot, so called, to Mr. John Brown, at £4 14s. per acre; the south Borland lot, so called, to Nathan Miller, Esq., at £5 10s. per acre; the Moffatt farm, so called, to Col. Archibald Crary, for £610; the Rome farm, so called, in North Kingstown, to Mr. John Brown, at £4 10s. per acre; the Rome lot, wharf and store houses, so called, in Newport, to Mr. John Brown, for £575; the Boone farm, so called, in Exeter, to Major Thomas Gorton, at £1 8s. per acre.

The number of acres in the above estates, which were sold by the acre, to be ascertained by the survey which was made of them some time since by Caleb Harris, Esq., excepting the Rome farm in North Kingstown, which your committee agreed should be re-surveyed. All which is submitted by

NATHAN MILLER,  
WILLIAM RHODES,  
THOMAS RUMREILL,  
Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted.

And whereas, Thomas Gorton, who bid off the Boone farm, so called, in Exeter, hath neglected to pay the purchase money, agreeable to the conditions of sale; and whereas, Benjamin Tillinghast, Esq., who, by agreement, was to be equally interested and concerned with the said Thomas Gorton, in the purchase of said farm, hath represented to this Assembly, that he is ready to pay three hundred and sixty pounds of the purchase money immediately, into the general treasury, and hath requested that a further time of six months from this time, may be allowed him to complete the payment of the whole purchase money, and that in case he shall fail in paying the same in the course of the said six months, he does agree to forfeit the said first payment; wherefore,—

It is further voted and resolved, that on condition of the said Benjamin Tillinghast paying immediately into the general treasury the said sum of three hundred and sixty

pounds, a further term of six months be allowed him to complete the payment of the whole purchase money; and if the whole payment shall not be completed within the said term, then and in that case the said first payment to be forfeited to the state, and the sale of the said estate to be void.

And it is further voted and resolved, that on the payment of the whole purchase money, (being the sum bid for said farm,) as aforesaid, the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to make and execute unto the said Benjamin Tillinghast a good and effectual deed of said estate, in fee simple, with warranty.

And it is further voted and resolved, by and with the consent of the said Benjamin Tillinghast, that the interest on the bills which he shall pay for said estate be computed and allowed unto him up to the time he shall pay the same into the general treasury.

Provided, nevertheless, and it is further voted and resolved, that six per cent. per annum be computed and added to the sum which shall make the last payment, and for the payment whereof a further time is allowed as aforesaid; and that said addition of six per cent. per annum be paid into the general treasury within the time prescribed for the payment of the principal sum as aforesaid.

It is also voted and resolved, that the said Benjamin Tillinghast enter into possession of the said estate on the 25th day of March next.

It is further voted and resolved, that Caleb Harris, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to re-survey the Rome farm, in North Kingstown, sold to Mr. John Brown; and Mr. George Thomas, the town clerk of North Kingstown, is requested to attend at said re-survey, to point out the boundaries of said estate.

It is further voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he hereby is, empowered and directed to make and execute unto the other purchasers of the aforesaid es-

tates, good and effectual deeds of the estates purchased by them respectively, in fee simple, with warranty, so soon as they shall respectively complete the payment of the money paid for said estates.

Whereas, Mr. Jeremiah Gardner, of North Kingstown, preferred a petition unto this Assembly, representing that the town of Exeter, at a late town meeting, did order that he should alter the highway that runneth by his house, by carrying the same westward, through a very deep morass, and which, in other respects, would be very inconvenient to the citizens of the state who should have occasion to travel said road ; and therefore prayed that the said road, as it now runs and is laid out, may be confirmed as the common road to pass and re-pass ; and the same being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said road, as it now runs, be, and the same is hereby, confirmed and established as the common road.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to commission some suitable vessel as a flag of truce, under the command of Captain Shubael Worth, to proceed to New York, in order to exchange a number of the citizens of this state, who are prisoners with the enemy ; that the said Shubael Worth be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to receive, of the commissary of prisoners in this state, all the prisoners of war in his hands, and carry them to New York ; and that he be directed to receive, of the British commissary of prisoners at New York, as many American prisoners as the said British commissary shall be willing to send back in exchange.

It is further voted and resolved, that sufficient provisions for the prisoners which shall be sent in the said flag, be furnished by Mr. Ellery, the commissary of prisoners in this state ; that he lay the expense thereof before this Assembly, for payment ; and that all other expenses for said flag,

including the hire of the vessel, &c., be defrayed by the said Shubael Worth, Capt. Daniel Aborn, Mr. Charles Lee and Mr. Benjamin Cozzens, at whose joint request the aforesaid flag is granted.

Whereas, one Daniel Brown stands indebted to this state in the sum of one hundred and twenty pounds, for a fine ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Newport be, and he is hereby, directed forthwith to collect said fine, with the interest due thereon; and if the said Daniel Brown shall refuse or neglect to pay the same, the said sheriff is hereby empowered and directed to sell so much of the life estate of the said Daniel Brown as will produce a sufficient sum to pay the said fine, with the said interest and costs.

Whereas, Cato Bannister, who was a negro slave belonging to the heirs of the late John Bannister, of Newport, deceased, and also an indented apprentice to Mr. Elkanah Humphry, of Barrington, enlisted into the late regiment commanded by Col. Christopher Greene, agreeable to an act of this Assembly, and was appraised by the committee who were appointed to value the slaves who should enlist into the said regiment, at the sum of one hundred and five pounds, lawful money; and whereas, this Assembly ordered that the interest on said sum should be allowed and paid to the said Elkanah Humphry, till the time of the said slave's indentures should expire; and whereas, it appears by the report of the auditor, that there is the sum of eight pounds, two shillings, lawful money, due to the said Elkanah Humphry, for the interest on the sum at which the said slave was valued by the committee as aforesaid; and the same being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to give unto the said Elkanah Humphry his promissory note for the said sum of

eight pounds, two shillings, payable on demand, with an interest of six per cent. per annum.

It is voted and resolved, that William Rhodes and Benjamin Tillinghast, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to lease all the forfeited estates belonging to this state, for the present year, at private or public vendue; and that they take good and sufficient security from the several lessees, for the faithful performance of the covenants of their respective leases.

It is further voted and resolved, that said committee sell, at public vendue, all the stock and farming utensils belonging to the state, which may be on any of the confiscated estates; and that the said committee make report to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Providence be, and he hereby is, empowered and directed to place such a guard over the gaol in said county of Providence, as His Honor the Deputy Governor shall deem sufficient, for the better security of the insurgents lately apprehended and confined there; and that the expense for said guard be defrayed out of the general treasury of this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the report of the committee appointed to inquire into the facts set forth in the memorial of Giles Mumford, &c., be, and the same is hereby accepted; and that His Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to cause a fair copy thereof to be made, and to transmit the same to His Excellency the Governor of the state of Connecticut, as soon as may be.

Whereas, Dr. John Newman, of Newport, preferred a petition to this Assembly, representing that at the last term of the superior court, in the county of Newport, he was convicted of an illicit correspondence with the enemy, and sentenced to be fined and imprisoned; that he is very sorry for his offence; that he has a numerous family, which is much distressed by his confinement; that the fine imposed

on him is far beyond his ability to pay, and therefore prayed that he may be liberated and discharged. And whereas, a number of respectable inhabitants of Newport have requested the interposition of this Assembly for the relief of the said John Newman; and the said petition and request being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said John Newman be, and he is hereby, ordered to be discharged from gaol, on the payment of costs attending his prosecution, conviction and confinement; that the said fine be remitted to him; that he give bond for his good behavior for the space of one year, and that said bond be lodged in the hands of the attorney general.

Whereas, Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney hath, in writing, represented to this Assembly that there are eighty married non-commissioned officers and privates serving in the Rhode Island regiment, in the army of the United States, whose families are much distressed in consequence of their husbands having received no pay for some years past; and therefore prayed this Assembly to provide some means for their relief;—

It is thereupon voted and resolved, that the said representation be, and the same is hereby, referred to Mr. Paul Allen, Nathan Miller and William Hammond, Esqs., and that they report thereon as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins and John Jenckes, Esqs., and Mr. Paul Allen, be a committee to burn all the bills of the emission of this state, of June, 1780, now in the general treasury; all the four and six per cent. notes which have been lodged in the treasury, to be renewed agreeable to former acts of this Assembly; all bills emitted by this state prior to the said emission in June, 1780, which have been lodged in the treasury in exchange for state notes, agreeable to an act heretofore passed for that purpose, and all certificates issued by Charles Holden, Esq., late commissary of purchases, and which have since been re-

ceived into the general treasury; that said committee keep an exact account of the bills and securities which shall be burnt, agreeable to the foregoing directions, and make report of their doings hereon to this Assembly, at the next session.

Whereas, Gideon Mumford and Adam Comstock, Esqs, and Col. Archibald Crary, who were appointed a committee by this Assembly to ascertain the sums to be allowed to Capt. Thomas Allen, Capt. William Lawless, Samuel Montgomery, surgeon, Benjamin Wilcox, lieutenant, Simeon Dexter, lieutenant and quartermaster, officers in the regiment of troops in the service of this state, late under the command of the said Col. Archibald Crary, in lieu of the clothing which they were entitled to draw at a stated price, have reported to this Assembly that the said Thomas Allen, William Lawless and Samuel Montgomery should receive four pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence each; and the said Benjamin Wilcox and Simeon Dexter should receive four pounds and five pence each;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said sums be paid to them respectively, by the general treasurer, out of the next state tax.

Whereas, Lieut. Col. Silas Talbot preferred a petition to this Assembly, representing his appointment by Congress to the rank and pay of a lieutenant colonel in the army of the United States, and praying that the depreciation of his pay may be allowed and ordered him; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, accepted; and that Esek Hopkins, Benjamin Bourne and Thomas Rumreill, Esqs., who were heretofore appointed for settling the pay and depreciation of the other officers, be, and they are hereby, appointed to settle the wages and depreciation of the petitioner, on the same principles.

Whereas, Mr. Abraham Redwood, Jr., of Newport, and

Mrs. Catharine Tweedy, widow, of said Newport, have preferred a petition to this Assembly, representing that Susannah Redwood, wife of the said Abraham Redwood, and the said Catharine Tweedy are children and devisees of James Honyman, Esq., late of said Newport, deceased, and by the last will and testament of the said James Honyman, are entitled to the moiety or equal half-part of the personal and real estate by him left, the debts therefrom due being first paid ; that this estate has taken possession of the other half-part of the said estate, and still holds the same ; notwithstanding which, the whole of the taxes assessed on the entire and undivided estate have been demanded from, and paid off and fully discharged by, the petitioners, which they conceive to be unequal and unjust, as the state holds the other moiety, and keeps and enjoys all the benefits and advantages arising from the improvement thereof ; and therefore prayed that they may be reimbursed what they have paid over and above their proportion, as well of the taxes as debts of the said estate ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that William Ellery and Thomas Rumreill, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed to examine into the facts set forth in the said petition, and report thereon to the next session of this Assembly.

Whereas, Christopher Ellery, Esq., deputy commissary of prisoners, hath laid before this Assembly the examinations of several prisoners, taken in an armed boat of the enemy, commissioned at New York, by which it appears that the said prisoners have been guilty of offences against the laws of nations ; whereupon,—

It is voted and resolved, that Charles M'Kensie, James Goff and John Atkin, three of the said prisoners, be, and they are hereby, ordered to be confined in close gaol, in the county of Providence, till the further order of this Assembly.

Providence, September 19, A. D. 1782.

On intelligence being received that the enemy's fleet was moving to the eastward from New York, and that their design was against Newport, His Excellency the Governor convened as many of the members of the General Assembly as could be suddenly called together.

Present, His Excellency William Greene, Esq., Governor. The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., Deputy Governor.

Joseph Brown, Esq., and Gideon Mumford, Esq., assistants.

Mr. John Brown, John Smith, Welcome Arnold, William Barton, Thomas Rumreill and Archibald Crary, Esqs., Mr. James Lovett and Mr. William Waterman, deputies.

Resolved, that Thomas Rumreill, Esq., be appointed clerk.

Resolved, that Col. Archibald Crary be appointed to proceed to Rhode Island, and use his best endeavors for the immediate removal of the cannon and all other stores from Butts's Hill to the town of Providence.

Resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., purchase two tons of lead for the use of the laboratory; that he procure the same to be made into musket balls, and that three-fourths of said balls be made up with so many cartridges as soon as may be.

Resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be advised to empower Col. Archibald Crary to call on the commanding officer at Newport, to assist with the men under his command, in removing the cannon and stores from Butts's Hill; and that he empower him to impress teams for the purpose of removing said stores.

Resolved, that it be recommended to the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., to dispose of twelve hogsheads of rum, belonging to this state, (which he was appointed by the General Assembly to sell at private sale,) at public auction; and that he furnish Jonathan Arnold, Esq., with six hundred dollars, which was voted to him, Ezekiel Cornell and David

Howell, Esqs., to be accounted for in their service as delegates.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the foregoing proceedings of the said convention be, and the same are hereby, approved; and that the secretary cause them to be filed in his office.

Whereas, the Hon. William Bradford, Esq., one of the committee for leasing the confiscated estates belonging to this state, hath exhibited to this Assembly an account of that part of the rents of said estates that hath been received and settled by him; and the same having been submitted for examination to Esek Hopkins, Esq., Mr. Paul Allen and John Jenckes, Esq., they have reported as follows, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly relative to the rents of the confiscated estates.*

The following balances are due from the respective persons hereafter mentioned, to his state:

From Mr. Nathaniel Fales, Jr., thirty-eight pounds, two shillings and eight pence, payable in produce at the stated price; from Mr. Ebenezer Slocum, ten pounds, fifteen shillings and nine pence, payable in ditto; from Mr. Beriah Brown, Jr., sixty-four pounds, thirteen shilling, payable in ditto; from Col. Charles Dyre, thirty-one pounds twelve shillings, silver money; and from Mr. Benoni Albro, a judgment of court, the sum not ascertained.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and the same is hereby, accepted; that the said William Bradford take the most speedy and effectual measures for the recovery of the balances due from the said persons respectively; and that the leases to the said Nathaniel Fales, Jr., and Ebenezer Slocum, be delivered him by the secretary, to be put in suit.

It is voted and resolved, that Nathan Miller, Esq., who sold some property belonging to the state, saved from the wrecks at Newport, by order of this Assembly, be, and he is hereby, directed to report thereon to this Assembly at their next session.

It is voted and resolved, that the translation of the letter of the minister of France, in answer to the letter of His Excellency the Governor, on the birth of Monseigneur the Dauphin, be published in the Newport and Providence newspapers.

Whereas, Stephen Potter, William Richmond and Thomas Holden, Esqs., made the following report to this Assembly, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly to ascertain the number and value of the stock driven off Rhode Island, by order of this state, in December, 1776.*

We, the subscribers, who were appointed a committee to ascertain the number and value of the stock which was drove off from Rhode Island, by Col. John Cooke, by order of this state, in December, A. D. 1776, when the enemy took possession of said island, do report that, agreeable to our said appointment, we have proceeded on said business, and find that the following quantities of stock were taken at the said time from the persons hereafter named, and that the value thereof was as is carried out against the names of the said persons respectively, to wit: From the following inhabitants of Newport:

	£ s. d.
Col. John Malbone, 15 head of neat cattle, value.....	46 10 0
Messrs. Joseph Sisson and Edward Perry, 5 beef cattle.....	30 0 0
Mr. James Anthony, (son of Peleg,) 285 sheep .....	90 0 0
Mr. Nicholas Easton, 25 head of neat cattle.....	127 10 0
Mr. Charles Wickham, 211 sheep.....	66 0 0
Mr. James Coggeshall, 1 cow.....	5 8 0
Mr. Elisha Coggeshall, 8 cattle .....	33 0 0
Mr. John Collins, 70 sheep.....	31 10 0

And from the following persons living in Middletown, to wit:

Mr. John Varse, 1 two-year old, value.....	3 0 0
Mr. Thomas Peckham, 1 yearling steer.....	3 0 0
Mr. William Peckham, 4 young neat cattle.....	6 10 0
Mr. Edward Barker, Jr., 28 sheep.....	10 10 0
Mr. Nicholas Easton, 15 head of neat cattle and 95 sheep.....	131 8 0
Mr. Peleg Barker, Jr., 49 sheep .....	22 1 0
Mr. Stephen Peckham, 1 young neat creature.....	2 8 0
Mr. Edward Easton, 1 two-year old and 41 sheep.....	37 13 0
Mr. John Slocum, 2 oxen and 5 cows.....	37 10 0
Mr. Silas Cooke, 2 oxen.....	18 0 0
Mrs. Hannah Bailey, 8 sheep .....	3 12 0
Mr. Parker Hall, 2 cows, 1 calf and 12 sheep, value.....	18 0 0
Mr. Jonathan Wilson, 2 oxen.....	18 0 0
Mr. William Bliss, Jr., 1 three-year old.....	4 4 0

N. B. Mr. Nicholas Easton, of Middletown, owned four oxen, of the value of thirty-six pounds, which were employed in drawing cannon for the state, when the enemy

took possession of Rhode Island, and were seized and converted to the use of the enemy by order of the commander-in-chief of the British troops.

And from the following inhabitants of Portsmouth, to wit:

Mr. John Shearman, 48 sheep, value .....	21	12	0
Mr. George Lawton, 8 neat cattle and 41 sheep.....	49	7	0
Mr. Christopher Fish, 6 cows and 6 two-years old cattle .....	43	4	0
Mr. William Anthony, 48 sheep .....	16	2	6
Mr. Giles Lawton, 1 yearling and 3 calves .....	7	16	0
Miss Sarah Almy, 4 neat cattle .....	12	18	0
Mr. Isaac Lawton, 2 young oxen.....	15	0	0
Mr. John Hix, 22 sheep and 1 calf .....	11	14	0
Messrs. Job and Christopher Durfee, 3 oxen, 1 cow, 2 horses, 109 sheep and 3 hogs.....	73	11	0
Mr. Isaac Anthony, 132 sheep.....	45	0	0
Mr. Clarke Chace, 4 cattle .....	18	0	0
Mrs. Sarah Lawton, 33 sheep.....	13	10	0

All which is submitted by the General Assembly's most obedient servants,

STEPHEN POTTER,  
WILLIAM RICHMOND,  
THOMAS HOLDEN,

Newport, June 14, 1782.

Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to give his promissory notes to the several persons named in said report, for the sums carried out against their names respectively; that the said notes carry a compound interest of six per cent. per annum, from this time; that they be payable in two years from the date; that they bear date at the time when called for; and that the general treasurer also give his promissory note, of the same tenor, for the sum of thirty-six pounds, to Mr. Nicholas Easton, of Middletown, in compensation for the four oxen taken from him, in consequence of their being hired in the public service, as mentioned in the said report.

Whereas, Messrs. Edward Smith, Stephen Olney and Benjamin Whipple, Jr., were by this Assembly appointed a committee to view and estimate the damages done by the French army in the vicinity of their encampment, in North Providence, and to value the wood cut and used by them; and they having performed said service, reported thereon

that the following sums ought to be paid to the proprietors for the damages they have actually sustained; that the wood and timber which the huts are composed of, be considered as the property of His Most Christian Majesty; that the trees and other timber and wood, which remain within the surveys, be considered as the property of said proprietors, in balance, as a compensation for that which was cut without said surveys; and that there be paid—

To Jeremiah Dexter, for 699 cords of wood, cut off 23 acres, 1 rod and 14 poles of land, at \$2 per cord .....	\$1,398
Damage done fences, &c.....	48½
	——— 1,446½
To Joseph Dexter's heirs, for 953½ cords of wood, cut off 31 acres, 3 rods and 9 poles of land, at \$2 per cord .....	1,907
Damage done fences, &c.....	140½
	——— 2,047½
To Thomas Arnold, for 24½ cords of wood, at \$2 per cord, fence de stroyed, &c.....	70
To Jeremiah Sayles, for 4 cords of wood, at \$2 per cord, fence de stroyed, &c.....	48½
To Peter Randall, for fence, &c., destroyed.....	10
To Marcy Dexter, for fence, &c., destroyed.....	10
	———
	\$3,627½

Cost of the committee, \$10, received of Jabez Bowen, Esq., by Stephen Ohney.

EDWARD SMITH,  
STEPHEN OLNEY,  
BENJAMIN WHIPPLE, JR.

North Providence, December 23, 1782.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be accepted; that the sum of one thousand and three dollars, and three-quarters of a dollar, being the sum which the proprietors of said woodland have received more than the amount of the damages done them, according to said report, be paid by the persons who have received the same to the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq.; and that after deducting the expenses of taking the said estimate of damages, the said Jabez Bowen pay the remainder to the order of the commissary at war of the French army.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Gover-

nor be requested to answer the letter from His Excellency General Washington, of the 13th of December last, on the subject of recruiting this state's Continental regiment; that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief be informed that, from the present prospect of a speedy termination of the war, this Legislature is induced to postpone the raising any recruits for the said regiment at present; but if the event shall turn out contrary to the general expectation, and the negotiations in Europe for a general peace should prove unsuccessful, this state will immediately take measures for recruiting their regiment.\*

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Shadrach Card and Elisha Card, who have hired a farm upon Block Island, have liberty to go there, and carry on their household furniture and necessaries for their families, under the inspection of Col. Thomas Potter.

*\*General Washington to Governor Greene.*

Head-Quarters, 13th December, 1782.

Sir:—By a resolution of Congress, of the 7th of August, there is to be, upon the 1st of January next, a reform of all regiments in the Continental army which do not at that time consist of at least 500 rank and file. But this being left somewhat at the discretion of the secretary at war, he would wish, before he carries the resolution into execution, to give those states whose corps are not a great way below the proposed establishment, an opportunity of endeavoring to complete them, upon a supposition that they would rather exert themselves to effect this salutary purpose, than suffer a number of valuable officers, whose inclination it is to remain in service, to retire upon half pay.

The regiment of your state will, upon the 1st of January, consist of about 300 rank and file, which will, at most, form five companies. Consequently, should there be no prospect of recruiting it, a great proportion of the officers must be dismissed upon half pay.

Before Col. Olney marched to the northward, he showed me an act of the Legislature of the state, for raising 200 men; but the object of that act seemed to be the re-enlisting the levies who had been engaged for the campaign; and as the bounty money was not sent forward, Col. Olney seemed of the opinion that very few of those men would be retained. But I imagine he will have informed you of his success and prospects.

I must request your Excellency to lay this matter before the Legislature, and to endeavor to prevail upon them to make an adequate provision for recruiting their regiment to 500 rank and file at least, should the former act prove insufficient; and as the secretary at war only waits the determination of the house upon this point, that he may regulate his conduct accordingly, you will be pleased to furnish me with their decision as soon as it is known.

I would just beg leave to observe, that from the present situation of affairs, we have no reason to conclude that an addition to our present force will not be necessary the next year; and that making an early provision for such addition, can be attended with no real inconvenience or expense, as the fund appropriated to this purpose can, with ease, be converted to other uses before the men are raised, should we happily have no occasion for them.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Christopher White, William Brown, John Browning, Fobes Little, Jr., James Brownell and Joshua Wilbur, all of Little Compton, be permitted to subscribe the test required by law, before the town meeting of Little Compton aforesaid; and that Mr. Caleb Arnold, of North Kingstown, be permitted to subscribe the said test, before the town meeting of said North Kingstown.

It is voted and resolved, that the following named persons are permitted to go to New York and return, under the inspection of Christopher Ellery, Esq.:—

Elizabeth, relict of Dr. Thomas Hazard; Stephen Hazard, of South Kingstown; Samuel Snow, of Providence, merchant; Cromel Child; Joseph Nichols, of Newport, and James Bowdoin, of Boston.

Whereas, His Excellency the Governor hath laid before this Assembly a letter from Christopher Ellery, Esq., D. C. G. P., requesting to be supplied with provisions, or money to procure the same, for the prisoners of war in his custody; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Christopher Ellery be empowered to call on William Channing, Esq., for such supplies of money or provisions as he may want for the prisoners of war, from time to time, not exceeding the sum of thirty pounds in the whole; that the said William Channing furnish him accordingly, out of the money or provisions which he may receive on account of rents due to this state; and that the said Christopher Ellery account for the expenditure of such supplies as he may receive as aforesaid.

Whereas, John Handy, Esq., who was directed to examine the return from the several towns of the number of their inhabitants, presented unto this Assembly the following summary of the said returns and report, to wit:

A Summary of the Inhabitants in the several Towns in the State of Rhode Island, taken A. D. 1782, by order of the General Assembly of said State.

I have carefully examined the lists returned from the different towns, of their inhabitants respectively, and the preceding is a true summary thereof.

JOHN HANKEY.

Which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be, and is hereby, accepted; and that the same, and the said summary, be filed in the secretary's office, among the records of the state.

It is further voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to cause a fair copy of the said summary, taken in consequence of a resolution of Congress, to be made out; and that he transmit the same to the delegates from this state now at Congress, as containing an exact account of the inhabitants of this state, excepting the inhabitants of New Shoreham, who, being under the control of the enemy, cannot be numbered; and inform them that the number of inhabitants on the said island was, agreeable to the census taken A. D. 1774, five hundred and seventy-five.

It is voted and resolved, that William Ellery, Esq., Col. Henry Sherburne and Jonathan Hazard, Esq., be a committee on the letters of the delegates at Congress, relative to the proceedings of Congress respecting the conduct of David Howell, Esq., as a delegate from this state in Congress; and to draft a letter to Congress on that subject, and a resolution expressive of this Assembly's approbation of the conduct of the said David Howell.\*

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing, Esq., the attorney general of this state, and Mr. Paul Allen, be, and they are hereby, appointed to ask and demand of the persons who contracted for the liberty of wrecking in Newport harbor, the money now due on the said contract; and of Mr. Griffin Greene, for the money due for a cannon which he bought of the state; and of Mr. Stephen Potter, payment for the wool he received belonging to this state; that in case they refuse to settle and pay the same immediately, the said committee prosecute the delinquents at the next

\* See papers at the end of the session.

inferior court to be holden in the state, proper to try the same ; and that they also inquire whether the money hath ever been paid into the general treasury for the sale of the lands belonging to Samuel Wilson, lying in North Kings-town.

Whereas, twenty-five three-pound shot, a ladle and worm, were by His Honor the Deputy Governor lent to Captain William Creed, on the 1st of January, 1782 ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that His Honor be requested to call on the said William Creed for the said articles, and that he deliver them to Capt. Coleman, commissary of military stores.

His Honor the Deputy Governor having lent to Mr. Joseph Angell two swivel guns from the laboratory,—

It is voted and resolved, that he be requested to order the said swivel guns to be returned, and delivered to Capt. Coleman, commissary of military stores.

It is voted and resolved, that the accounts of Major Josiah Flagg and Josiah Flagg, Jr., for their services in the department of the commissary of military stores, and which are signed and recommended for payment by the Hon. Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., secretary at war, be transmitted by the said Josiah Flagg to the delegates of this state in Congress; and that they request Congress to point out the mode of paying the said accounts, and inform His Excellency the Governor of the determination of Congress, whenever the same shall be made.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Paul Allen be appointed to call on William Turner Miller, Esq., for the iron ordnance and stores delivered him the 11th of July, 1781, by Major Wm. Perkins, C. M. S., for the defence of the schooner Hunter, and that the same be delivered to the said Paul Allen, at Providence.

Whereas, no provision is made by law for recovering monies due from collectors of taxes, upon assessments made by the respective towns within this state, but by commenc-

ing actions at the inferior courts at the legal terms, whereby great delays and injustice frequently take place; for preventing whereof, in future,—

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the town treasurers of the several towns within this state be, and they are hereby, empowered to bring actions to special courts, for the recovery of any sum or sums of money due, or which shall be hereafter due, from the collectors of taxes, upon the assessments of taxes made by said towns upon their respective inhabitants; and that the same proceedings be had in the prosecutions for the same as are by law prescribed in similar cases before special inferior courts.

It is voted and resolved, that the account of Mr. John Brown against John Watson, an absentee, now exhibited to this Assembly, be referred to the committee heretofore appointed for adjusting the accounts against the estates of absentees.

Representation having been made to this Assembly, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., is threatened with a prosecution at law, for the part he hath taken in procuring a reconsideration of the damages allowed to the proprietors of the woodland in North Providence, for the wood cut by the army of His Most Christian Majesty, and in consequence of their encamping thereon; and this Assembly being convinced that His Honor was not influenced by any views of self-interest, but that he acted from pure motives of regard to the honor of the state, and the justice due to our generous allies,—

Do vote and resolve, that in case any process in law be instituted against him, upon account of the part he hath so taken, this Assembly will, at the expense of the state, defend in such action, and will indemnify him from all costs and damages that shall accrue thereon.

Whereas, Timothy Jenne, Thomas Howland, Daniel Hunt, Oziel Hopkins, Nathan Paine, the 3d, Lippit Eddy, James

King, Jr., John Hunt, John Phetteplace, Benjamin Salsbury, Constant Vial, Benjamin Paine and Simon Paine, preferred a petition to this Assembly, confessing that they had been acting in a riotous and illegal manner, and representing that they are truly sensible of their error, and fully determined to behave in future as peaceable and obedient citizens, and praying to be forgiven and restored to the favor of their country; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Timothy Jenne and Thomas Howland appear before the superior court in the county of Providence, on the second day of their next term, to recognize as witnesses for the state, and enter into such further bonds for their future good conduct as said court shall direct; that all costs and expenses which have accrued in consequence of rescuing certain cattle taken by the collector of taxes of Gloucester, for the payment of taxes, and of the rescue of the persons who were guilty of that high-handed offence, be settled to the satisfaction of the justices of the peace who composed the court before whom they were called to appear; and that thereupon the above-named persons be pardoned for their said offences, and restored to the rights of citizenship; provided, nevertheless, that this pardon shall not extend to either of the said persons, if it shall appear he was concerned in killing or maiming the horses of Ezra Whitney, Esq., of Douglass, and others.

**An Act for securing to the creditors of the absentees, whose estates have been confiscated to and for the use of this state, their several demands, as reported by the committee who were appointed to settle the several claims exhibited against the said estates.**

Whereas, the committee appointed to settle the several claims exhibited against the estates of the absentees, which have been confiscated to and for the use of this state, reported unto this Assembly that there are due the following sums from the estates of the said absentees, to the undesignated persons, to wit:

From the estate of Joseph and William Wanton.

To Mr. Henry Northup, on note, dated December 1, 1777, two hundred and thirty-one pounds, lawful money, with interest thereon; to Mrs. Mary Coddington, on note, dated April 24, 1772, thirty-one pounds, ten shillings, with interest thereon; to Henry Marchant, Esq., on note, dated April 29, 1775, twenty-eight pounds, eight shillings,

with interest thereon; to Mrs. Penelope Cranston, on note, dated March 29, A. D. 1773, twenty-one pounds, eight shillings and three pence, with interest thereon; to Mr. Henry J. Overing, on note, dated October 2, A. D. 1773, seven hundred and forty pounds, five shillings and eight pence, with interest thereon; to Mr. Stephen Ayrault, on note, dated January 1, A. D. 1774, forty pounds, ten shillings and four pence, with interest thereon; to Simeon Potter, Esq., on note, dated January 13, A. D. 1774, one hundred and thirty-five pounds, with interest thereon; to Mrs. Mary Thurston, administratrix of Mr. John Thurston, deceased, on note, dated April 11, A. D. 1774, seventy-four pounds, six shillings and eleven pence half-penny; to Mr. Peleg Eldred, on note, dated October 22, A. D. 1774, fifty-six pounds, eight shillings, with interest thereon; to Mr. Nathaniel Briggs, on note, dated June 3, A. D. 1775, forty-six pounds, eleven shillings and six pence, with interest thereon; to Mr. Isaac Peirce, on note, one pound sixteen shillings; to Mr. Francis Brinley, on note, dated August 27, A. D. 1776, twenty-four pounds; to Mr. Benjamin Clarke, on note, dated September 18, A. D. 1773, one hundred pounds, one shilling and eight pence, with interest thereon; to Mr. Moses Levy, on note, dated May 27, A. D. 1774, one hundred and thirty-five pounds, with interest thereon; to Mr. Elisha Sanford, on note, dated August 20, A. D. 1774, eighty-seven pounds, with interest thereon; to Mr. Nathan Daggett, on account, twenty pounds, sixteen shillings and eight pence; to Mr. Thomas George, on account, twenty-three pounds, nineteen shillings and eleven pence half-penny; to Mr. Joseph Whitmarsh, on account, thirty-two pounds, seven shillings and eight pence; to Mr. Samuel Treby, on account, seventy-four pounds, seven shillings and eleven pence one farthing; to Mr. Joseph Burrill, on account, twenty-seven pounds, two shillings and three pence half-penny; to Mr. Ebenezer Burrill, on account, twenty pounds, three shillings and ten pence; to Mr. Thomas Bissell, on account, sixteen shillings and one penny half-penny; to Mr. Solomon Southwick, on account, eleven pounds, four shillings and ten pence half-penny; to Mr. Robert Taylor, on account, four pounds and nine pence one farthing; to Mr. Joseph Boss, on account, nine pounds, twelve shillings and ten pence three farthings; to Messrs. Cranston & Hazard, on account, seventy pounds, four shillings and one penny half-penny; to Mr. Samuel Cole, on account, eleven pounds, seven shillings and an half-penny; to William Davis, Esq., on account, four pounds, nine shillings and five pence; to Mr. Jeremiah Hill, on account, twenty-one pounds and nine pence half-penny; to Mr. Elisha Sanford, on account, one pound, four shillings and nine pence half-penny; to Mr. Isaac Church, on account, eleven pounds, ten shillings and seven pence; to Mr. Benjamin Wilbur, on account, thirteen pounds, ten shillings and one penny farthing; to William Greene, Esq., on account, eighteen pounds; to Mr. Nicholas Goddard, on account, twenty-two pounds, three shillings and eight pence one farthing; to Adam Comstock, Esq., on account, forty-five pounds, six shillings and seven pence half-penny; to Christopher Champlin, Esq., on account, three pounds, two shillings and seven pence three farthings; to Mr. Thomas Forrester, on account, thirteen pounds, nineteen shillings; to Job Bennet, Esq., on account, ten pounds, twelve shillings; to Mr. Peter Mumford, on account, fifty-two pounds, eleven shillings and seven pence three farthings; and to Thomas Aldrich, Esq., on account, fifty-three pounds, sixteen shillings and four pence.

From the estate of Joseph Wanton. .

To Solomon Southwick, Esq., on account, twelve pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence half-penny; to Mr. John Carter, on account, two pounds; to Mr. John Townsend, on account, six pounds, thirteen shillings; to John Malbone, Esq., on note, dated April 28, A. D. 1772, seventy-five pounds, with interest thereon; to Mr. Isaac Peirce, on note, dated August 7, A. D. 1776, fifty pounds, fourteen shillings, with interest thereon; and to Mr. Peter Mumford, on account, thirty-four pounds, nineteen shillings and eight pence.

From the estate of William Wanton.

To Job Bennett, Esq., on account, four pounds, eleven shillings and five pence; to Samuel Fowler, Esq., on account, one pound, four shillings; and to Mr. Peter Mumford, on account, nineteen pounds, five shillings and eight pence.

From the estate of Thomas Baunister.

To Henry Marchant, Esq., on note, dated March 11, A. D. 1773, seventeen pounds, fifteen shillings and eight pence half-penny, with interest thereon; to Mr. Wm. Gyles, on note, dated December 4, A. D. 1775, eleven pounds, nine shillings and six pence, with interest thereon; to William Davis, Esq., on note, dated June 5, A. D. 1776, one pound, sixteen shillings, with interest thereon; to Mr. Benjamin Easton, on account, eighteen shillings; to Mr. Stephen Ayrault, on account, one pound, thirteen shillings and three pence, and on note, dated May 4, A. D. 1774, nine pounds, seven shillings and six pence; to Mr. Benjamin Wilbur, on account, seven pounds ten shillings; to Mr. John Bourne, on note, dated January 15, A. D. 1773, three pounds, seventeen shillings, with interest thereon; to Mrs. Deborah Hunter, on note, dated July 25, A. D. 1777, eighteen pounds, fifteen shillings and eight pence, with interest thereon; to John Tillinghast, Esq., on note, dated February 17, A. D. 1775, thirty pounds, four shillings and six pence, with interest thereon; to Mr. Jacob Richardson, on note, dated March 14, A. D. 1775, three pounds, eleven shillings and eight pence, with interest thereon; to Mr. Brenton Perkins, on note, dated December 11, A. D. 1773, thirty-one pounds, one shilling and five pence half-penny; and on account, forty-three pounds, ten shillings and eleven pence.

From the estate of John Bell.

To Christopher Champlin, Esq., on a mortgage bill of sale, dated May 6, A. D. 1776, one hundred and eighty-five pounds, thirteen shillings and six pence one farthing; and on account, twenty-six pounds, one shilling.

From the estate of Isaac Lawton.

To William Davis, Esq., on account, three pounds, sixteen shillings and seven pence three farthings.

From the estate of Samuel Boone.

To John Malbone, Esq., on note, dated April 1, A. D. 1769, seven pounds, ten shillings, with interest thereon; to Mr. Samuel Eldred, on note, dated December 30, A. D. 1763, nine pounds, six shillings, with interest thereon; to Mr. Benjamin Davis, on note, dated January 26, A. D. 1774, two pounds, eight shillings and four pence, with interest thereon; to Mr. John Brown, on note, dated June 22, A. D. 1776, eleven pounds, eleven shillings and eight pence, with interest thereon; to Mr. Benjamin Thomas, on note, dated January 3, A. D. 1778, twenty pounds, eleven shillings and an half-penny; to Mr. Jonathan Strait, on account, eight shillings and six pence; to Mr. William Gyles, on account, forty-two pounds, three shillings and seven pence half-penny; to Mrs. Hannah Clarke, on note, dated May 30, A. D. 1772, seventeen pounds, fourteen shillings, with interest thereon; to Mr. Samuel Tompkins, on note, dated March 28, A. D. 1765, eleven pounds, seventeen shillings, with interest thereon; to Mr. Benjamin Reynolds, on note, one pound six shillings; to Mr. Ebenezer Brown, on note, one pound, seven shillings and six pence, with interest thereon; to Mr. Richard Boone, on account, two pounds, five shillings and ten pence; to Mr. Samuel Thomas, Jr., on account, two pounds, ten shillings and four pence; and to Mr. Nicholas Spink, on note, dated November 10, A. D. 1776, seventy-five pounds, with interest thereon; and upon another note, dated January 11, A. D. 1775, ten pounds, fourteen shillings.

From the estate of Joseph Durfee.

To the estate of Mr. Nathaniel Mumford, deceased, on account, three pounds, eleven shillings and eight pence; to Mr. Lemuel Wyatt, on account, four pounds, three shil-

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lings and six pence ; to Mr. Joseph Anthony, for rent of lands, fifty pounds, eight shillings ; and to Mr. Samuel Fowler, on note, dated March 13, A. D. 1775, five pounds, twelve shillings and an half-penny.

From the estate of James Frost.

To Mr. Godfrey Wainwood, on account, one pound, three shillings.

From the estate of Samuel Knowles.

To Mr. Amos Brown, on note, thirteen pounds, ten shillings, with interest thereon from May 25. A. D. 1777.

From the estate of George Rome.

To Mr. Peter Mumford, on a judgment of court, five hundred and seventeen pounds, and four pence, and the costs of suit; to Mr. Benjamin Wilbur, on account, eighteen pounds, seven shillings and six pence; to Mr. Thomas Eyres, on account, seventy-five pounds; to Job Bennett, Esq., on account, five pounds, nine shillings and four pence; to Mr. Stephen Ayrault, on account, nine pounds, seventeen shillings and three pence; to Mr. Edward Murphy, on account, one hundred and four pounds, fourteen shillings and two pence; to Mr. Godfrey Wainwood, on account, three pounds, five shillings; to Mr. Jacob Richardson, on account, six pounds, eighteen shillings and one penny; and to Gideon Hoxsie, Esq., on account, five pounds, twelve shillings and seven pence.

And from the estate of William Vassall.

To Mr. Benjamin Smith, on account, ten shillings and two pence.

And whereas, some of the aforesaid demands are upon securities which carry an interest, and others are upon book-accounts, which do not; and as this Assembly did, in order to prevent the estates aforesaid from being wasted, and for other weighty reasons, pass an act, thereby putting it out of the power of the creditors to recover their demands in the common course of law\*; and it is therefore just and reasonable that interest should be allowed upon the book-debts, and other demands which are adjusted, from the time that the respective estates were taken possession of by the state.

It is therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof, that an interest of six per centum per annum be allowed upon the book-debts, and other debts due from the said estates of the abovenamed absentees, which do not carry an interest, up to the 1st day of January last; and also upon the other debts which do carry an interest, from the time the interest commenced up to the said 1st day of January.

It is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed, upon application from the person or persons above named, to give his note, as general treasurer, for the sum reported as aforesaid to be due unto him or them, which note shall be of the following form, to wit:

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.**

By virtue of an act of the General Assembly, passed at February session, A. D. 1783, I,  
Esq., general treasurer of the state aforesaid, for the time being, in behalf of the said state, do promise to  
pay the sum of unto or order, upon demand, with an  
interest of six per centum per annum; it being the sum found due unto the said  
from the estate of an absentee, whose estate hath been confiscated.

Witness my hand, this 1st day of January, A. D. 1783.

And the general treasurer shall thereupon receive from the person or persons to whom he shall give his note as aforesaid, a receipt, signed by him or them, of the following tenor, to wit:

## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

I, do hereby acknowledge that I have received from Esq., general treasurer for the time being, a note, signed by the said treasurer, and payable to me or order, for the sum of upon demand ; being the sum allowed by the committee, as due unto me, from the estate of an absentee ; which is in full for my said demand.

Witness my hand, this day of A. D. 1783.

Which receipts the general treasurer shall keep on file in his office.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that every person who hath a demand against any of the estates of the said absentees, shall carry in and deliver unto the general treasurer the original bond, note, or other security, which he holds against such absentee ; or a stated account, if upon book-account ; or if a judgment of court, a copy thereof, that they may be lodged upon file in the said office.

Whereas, Ray Sands, of South Kingstown, esquire, hath presented a petition to this Assembly, representing that he hath leased out his farm upon New Shoreham ; that he hath there some household goods, negroes, flax and provisions ; and praying that he may have liberty to bring them upon the main ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be granted ; that the said Ray Sands have liberty to go upon the said island, and bring off his negroes, household furniture and provisions, with any other articles of the produce or growth of the said island ; provided that he go from the port of Newport, under the inspection of the intendant of trade there, and upon his return enter in the said intendant's office all the articles he shall bring, taking care that no British goods or prohibited articles be brought in his boat, under penalty of forfeiture of his said boat, and all the articles therein, and being also liable to a prosecution therefor.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer of this state be, and he hereby is, directed not to pay any further sums of money to Mr. George Olney, receiver of the Continental taxes in this state, until he shall consent to receive the certificates which have been issued for clothing for the use of the United States, and have been since paid into the treasury, in part payment of the taxes raised for the use of the said United States.

Whereas, Messrs. Paul Allen and Abel Tanner were ap-

pointed a committee to inquire into the true state of the case respecting the hire of the farm in Exeter, belonging to the state, known by the name of the Boone farm, by Capt. David Herrenden, and of the proceedings thereon, reported to this Assembly that they have carefully examined into the said affair, do find that Mr. Beriah Brown, Jr., commenced an action against the said David Herrenden, in February, A. D. 1781, for the rent of the said farm for the year 1778, and recovered judgment for one hundred and seventeen pounds, silver money, and one hundred and ten pounds, old Continental money, and cost of suit, taxed at eighty-five pounds; that the said David Herrenden has since paid thirty-six pounds, eighteen shillings, silver money, which sum is endorsed on the execution; that in the same year in which the said David Herrenden hired the same farm, Mr. James Bliven, D. C. F., took from the said David Herrenden thirteen tons of good English hay, for which he gave a receipt, for the use of the Continental magazine; that they are of opinion that the said receipt ought to be received by this Assembly, in full for the money due on the said execution, and that the said Herrenden ought to be discharged therefrom, upon his paying the cost of court; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said David Herrenden deliver the said James Bliven's certificate for the said thirteen tons of hay to the general treasurer of this state; that thereupon he be discharged from the said execution, first paying the costs of court; and that the amount of the said certificate be charged in the account of this state against the United States.

It is voted and resolved, that the sixth paragraph of an act entitled "An act to prevent unlawful gaming," to wit: the paragraph prohibiting any tavern keeper, inn holder, or keeper of any public house, from keeping in his house any billiard table, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

It is voted and resolved, that all persons who now are, or

n future shall be, possessed of any money in consequence of the sale of any property belonging to this state, be, and they hereby are, directed to pay the said money into the general treasury in specie only, saving and excepting those estates which have been particularly sold for the bills funded upon real estates, and the certificates issued by the commissary of purchases, agreeable to the resolve of this Assembly; that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed not to receive any orders on the treasury, or admit any other species of payment than cash, in payment of any money arising from such sales as aforesaid; and that the same, when received, be paid unto Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney, for discharging the wages of the officers and soldiers of this state's Continental battalion.

It is voted and resolved, that the following instructions be given to the delegates of this state in Congress, to wit:

1. That they endeavor to procure a repeal of the resolves of Congress against the people of Vermont, passed the 5th day of December last.
2. That they join in no compulsory measures, militating with the independence of that people, so long as they continue well affected to the interest of the United States.
3. That they promote and concur in measures to obtain a final declaration of Congress, in favor of the independence of that people; to which it is conceived (by this state,) they are entitled, in virtue of their having complied with certain resolves of Congress, passed on the 7th and 21st of August, A. D. 1781, relative thereto, as well as other considerations; provided they will, by their delegates, assume on themselves an equitable proportion of the national debt already incurred, and become a part of the Federal Union, by subscribing the articles of confederation.

It is voted and resolved, that Rouse J. Helme, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to make strict inquiry into the deficiencies of the payment of the taxes which have been assessed by this General Assembly upon the town of South Kingstown, and also into the causes of the said deficiencies; whether the money hath been collected from the inhabitants, and if so, what sums remain in the hands of the collectors, and make report to this Assembly at the next session; and that he also report the number of taxes on which the said

town of South Kingstown is in arrear with the treasury, and the individuals who have not paid their taxes.

Whereas, this Assembly did, at their last session, order the general treasurer to give his promissory note to the soldiers who served in this state's Continental battalions for the term of three years, payable in four years from the 1st day of December, A. D. 1782, with compound interest at the rate of six per centum per annum, in which resolve the non-effective officers and soldiers, those discharged for inability, and those transferred to the corps of invalids, that did belong to the said battalions, were omitted; in order that the last described persons, or their representatives, may be put upon a footing with those soldiers that served the said term of three years,—

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to give his promissory notes to the said non-effective officers and soldiers, those discharged for inability, and those transferred to the corps of invalids, or their representatives, whose accounts have been settled agreeable to a report of a committee accepted at January session, A. D. 1781, for the balances due to them respectively; that the said notes carry compound interest, at the rate of six per centum per annum, from the 1st day of December, A. D. 1782, and be payable in four years from the said 1st day of December, A. D. 1782.

Whereas, Thomas Rumreill, Esek Hopkins and Benjamin Bourne, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
relative to the balances due the Continental battalions.*

The subscribers, your Honors' committee for settling certain accounts with Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney's battalion, in the service of the United States, beg leave to report that we have met with a committee of officers from the battalion for the purpose aforesaid, and after due examination of the accounts, find the following balances due to the said regiment, to wit:

A balance of nine thousand one hundred and thirty-seven pounds, ten shillings and eleven pence, lawful money, due to the present effective officers and privates, includ-

ing the additional pay to the regimental staff, in full for their pay and subsistence from the 1st day of August, A. D. 1780, to the 31st day of December, A. D. 1781, inclusive; also a balance of four thousand and eighty-seven pounds, eighteen shillings and a penny, lawful money, due to the non-effective officers and privates, or their representatives, in full for their pay and subsistence from the 1st day of August, A. D. 1780, to the said 31st day of December, A. D. 1781; including also the pay in arrear to such as died in January, A. D. 1782; and also a balance of two hundred and sixty-two pounds, due to eight maimed privates of the said regiment, who were transferred to the corps of invalids, but who have not yet joined the same, in full for their pay in arrear during the same period, as though they had joined the said corps.

The particular accounts on which the aforesaid balances arise, are annexed to this report, and herewith exhibited; a reference to which will more explicitly show the mode which we have pursued in the adjustment of the said accounts.

The arrears due to the officers of the said battalion, and to the deranged officers of the battalions of the regiments formerly under the command of Colonel Christopher Greene and Colonel Henry Sherburne, belonging to this state, on account of subsistence, and the additional pay to the regimental staff of the said battalions, are not yet adjusted.

Your committee beg leave further to report that there is the sum of two thousand three hundred and sixty dollars, and five-sixths parts of a dollar, of the new Continental emission, (so called,) which was not paid out to the regiment, and is now due to the state, to wit:

One thousand one hundred and sixteen dollars, and four-sixths, in the hands of Capt. Thomas Hughes, paymaster to the battalion late under the command of Colonel Israel Angell; and also one thousand two hundred and forty-four dollars, and one-sixth, in the hands of Capt. Daniel S. Dexter, paymaster to the regiment late under the command of Col. Christopher Greene, being part of the money of the said emission, which was furnished by this state for the use of the said regiments.

All which is submitted by

THOMAS RUMREILL,  
ESEK HOPKINS,  
BENJAMIN BOURNE,

Providence, Feb. 26, 1783.

Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted, excepting the balances reported to be due to the eight maimed soldiers, which is referred for further consideration.

And it is also voted and resolved, that compound interest, at the rate of six per centum per annum, be allowed on the said balances, which, after deducting the sum due to the said maimed soldiers, amount to thirteen thousand two hundred and twenty-five pounds, nine shillings, lawful money, from the 1st day of January, A. D. 1782, until the same shall be paid.

An Act laying certain duties of excise upon certain articles herein mentioned, for the purpose of paying the annual interest arising upon the public securities of this state, or for raising a revenue for the support of the government thereof.

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that from and after the tenth day of April next, there shall be paid on the articles hereinafter enumerated the duty or excise to them respectively herein affixed, to wit:—

For every gallon of wine, one shilling; for every gallon of foreign brandy, one shilling; for every gallon of Geneva, one shilling; for every gallon of West India rum or spirits, one shilling; for every gallon of New England rum, or other distilled spirits, six pence; for every pound of imported tobacco, two pence; for every pound of imported snuff, three pence; for every pound of Bohea tea, three pence; for every pound of other India teas, one shilling; for every pound of coffee, one penny; for every pound of cocoa, one penny; for every pound of loaf sugar, two pence; for every pound of imported chocolate, four pence; for every barrel of cider, four pence; for every barrel of Perry, four pence; for every ounce of wrought silver, imported by land or water, eight pence; for every ounce of wrought gold, imported by land or water, ten shillings; for every coach, fifty shillings; for every chariot, fifty shillings; for every phaeton, thirty shillings; for every four-wheel chaise, thirty shillings; for every other chaise, chair and sulky, six shillings; for every clock, imported by land or water, twelve shillings; for every gold watch, imported by land or water, twelve shillings; for every silver or other watch, imported by land or water, six shillings; for every billiard table, six pounds; for every pack of playing cards, one shilling; for every dog, of any species whatever, two shillings; and for every dog more than one kept by any person, six shillings; and all wrought iron and steel ware, cutlery, edge-tools, wrought silks, muslins, lawns, gauzes, cambrics, beaver, castor and felt hats, of foreign manufacture; jewellery, all millinery plumes, feathers, flowers and sprigs of foreign growth or manufacture, looking-glasses, China ware, glass, stone, porcelain and earthen ware, painters' oil and colors, oranges, lemons, limes, dried fruits of all sorts, and sallad or sweet oil, imported into this state, shall pay two and an half per centum on the value of the said articles, at the time and place of landing. Provided, nevertheless, that a deduction of ten per centum upon all dutied liquors shall be allowed by the collectors of excise for common and ordinary wastage.

[For remainder of this act, see the printed schedule.]

Whereas, Thomas G. Hazard, William Ellery and Jonathan Hazard, Esqs., were by this Assembly appointed to draft resolutions relative to the conduct of the delegates of this state at Congress, laid the following draft before this Assembly, to wit:

*Resolutions relative to the Conduct of the Delegates of this State  
in Congress.*

This General Assembly having fully considered a letter from His Excellency the President of Congress, dated January 16, 1783, with its enclosures, and the other letters and papers laid before them, respecting the conduct of David Howell, Esq., a delegate to Congress from this state, do resolve,—

1. That the motion, containing a declaration and protest, made by Mr. Howell, and seconded by Mr. Arnold, as entered on the journals of Congress of the 18th day of December, in the year 1782, appears to be just, true and proper; and that this General Assembly do highly approve of the conduct of their delegates, in making said motion, declaration and protest.

2. That the extracts of letters from the secretary for foreign affairs, laid before this General Assembly, do fully justify the representations made to this state by its delegates, in regard to the success of the late applications of Congress for foreign loans, and in regard to our credit and reputation in Europe.\*

3. That this General Assembly entertain a high sense of the meritorious services rendered to this state, and to the cause of freedom in general, by the firm and patriotic conduct of the said delegates; particularly in their strenuous exertions to defeat the operation of measures which this state considered as dangerous to the public liberty.

4. That His Excellency the Governor of this state return an answer to the aforesaid letter of His Excellency the President of Congress, enclosing a copy of these resolutions.

And the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the foregoing resolutions be, and the same are hereby, approved; and that they pass as resolutions of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Joseph Brown, Esq., Mr. Paul Allen, Welcome Arnold and John Smith, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to destroy the moulds and other implements for counterfeiting money, which were deposited with the Hon. Nicholas Cooke, Esq., deceased; and that they deliver the charter, letters and other documents of a public nature, which were also depos-

\* *Resolution of Congress, with Extracts of Letters from the Secretary of Foreign Affairs.*

Resolved, that the secretary for foreign affairs be directed to transmit to the executive of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, certified copies of the following extracts of public letters from Europe, viz.:—

Extract of a letter from the minister of the United States, at the Court of Versailles, directed to the secretary for foreign affairs, dated Passy, August 12th, 1782:—"All ranks of this nation appear to be in good humor with us, and our reputation rises throughout Europe."

Extract of a letter from the minister at the Court of Versailles, to the secretary for foreign affairs, dated Passy, September 3d, 1782:—"It affords me much satisfaction to find the conduct of Congress approved by all that hear or speak of it, and to see all the marks of a constantly growing regard for us, and confidence in us, among those in whom such sentiments are most to be desired."

Extract of a letter from the same minister, to the superintendent of finance, dated Passy, April 8th, 1782, read in Congress, December 27th, 1782:—"Our public affairs go on swimmingly in Holland." And an extract of another letter from the same minister, to the superintendent of finance, dated Passy, 12th August, 1782, read in Congress, December 27th, 1782, viz.:—Your conduct, activity and address, as financier and provider for the exigencies of the state, is much admired and praised here,—its good conse-

ited with the said Nicholas Cooke, unto Henry Ward, Esq., secretary of the state, to be lodged in that office, giving and taking receipts for the same.

It is voted and resolved, with the consent of Mr. Nathaniel Briggs, that Thomas G. Hazard and William Channing, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to make a division of the stone wind-mill lot, in Newport, (so called,) late belonging to Messrs. John Banister and Thomas Banister, but whereof at present this state and the said Nathaniel Briggs are tenants in common; that the said committee make the said division agreeable to the last will and testament of John Banister, late of Middletown, deceased, and that they report to this Assembly at the next session.

Whereas, the inferior court of common pleas for the county of Washington stands adjourned until the fourth Monday of March, A. D. 1783; and the superior court for the said county is to be holden on the first Monday of April following; wherefore,—

It is voted and resolved, that all appeals from the said inferior court be entered at the said superior court, and be heard in the same manner as though ten days were between

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quences being so evident, particularly with regard to the rising credit of our country, and the value of bills."

Extract of a letter from the minister of the United States, at the Hague, to the secretary for foreign affairs, dated Hague, July 5th, 1782:—"Although I was obliged to engage with them for five millions of guilders. I don't expect we shall obtain that sum for a long time. If we get a million and an half by Christmas, it will be more than I expect."

Extract of a letter from the Marquis de Lafayette, to the secretary for foreign affairs, dated Paris, October 5th, 1782:—"In a letter from Mr. Adams to me, dated the Hague, September 29th. I had the following intelligence: 'We have at length the consent of all the cities and provinces, and have adjusted and agreed upon every article, word, syllable and point in the treaty of commerce, and clerks are employed in making out fair copies for the signature, which will be done this week. Amidst the innumerable crowd of loans which are opened in this country, many of which have little success, I was afraid that ours would have failed. I have, however, the pleasure to inform you that I am at least one million and an half in cash—about three millions of livres, which will be an aid to the operations of our finances.' From this it appears that Mr. Adams has well employed his time in Holland, and I beg you will please to communicate this extract to Mr. Morris."

That the said secretary also transmit to the said executive certified copies of the several letters that have been received from Mr. Adams, the minister at the Hague, in the course of the last six months, as well as those from Mr. Dumas, and the sundry letters which have been received from the ministers at Versailles and Madrid, on the subject of loans, in the course of the year 1782; and of all other letters respecting applications for foreign loans, and the result thereof, and respecting which secrecy has not been and is not enjoined by Congress.

the sitting of the said courts; and that no appeals shall be entered, or bonds given, so as to appeal any cause over the said April term; any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that Benjamin Bourne, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to assist the secretary in preparing the acts and orders of the General Assembly for the press, in the absence of Henry Sherburne, Esq., and that he lay his account for his services before this Assembly, for payment.

Whereas, a certain farm, or tract of land, with the buildings thereon, and its appurtenances, situated in the town of Bristol, estimated at about three hundred and eighty-five acres, commonly called the Mount Hope farm; a lot in the said town, containing about four acres, near to and heretofore a part of the said farm; a lot in Middletown, containing about seven acres, commonly called the Rome lot, the same heretofore belonging to George Rome; and a small messuage, consisting of a lot of land, with a small building thereon, formerly belonging to Isaac Lawton, and lying in Newport, were set off and appropriated for paying and discharging the balances due to the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the battalions late under the command of Col. Christopher Greene and Col. Henry Sherburne, as by the report of a committee accepted at January session, 1781, and the doings of this Assembly thereon will fully appear; and whereas, it is represented to this Assembly, that most of the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the said battalions, have sold, assigned and transferred their said balances, for the security of which the said appropriation was made; and whereas, no deed or conveyance of the said farm and lots hath been made by the general treasurer of this state to the persons interested therein; and whereas, it hath been further represented that Nathan Miller, Esq., hath discharged most of the said balances, and intends purchasing the remainder, to the end that he may be invested with the fee simple of the said farm and lots.

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that Archibald Crary, Esq., Samuel Ward, Esq., and Peter Turner, physician, be, and they are hereby, qualified to receive a deed or conveyance of the premises aforesaid in trust, to and for the use of the said officers, non-commissioned officers and privates; and the general treasurer is hereby empowered and directed to make and execute a good and authentic deed of all and singular the farm and lots aforesaid, with their buildings and appurtenances, with warranty, to the said Archibald Crary, Samuel Ward and Peter Turner, to have and to hold the same to them, the said Archibald Crary, Samuel Ward and Peter Turner, their survivors or survivor, in trust, to and for the sole use, benefit and behoof of the said officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, their heirs and assigns forever.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that upon the said Nathan Miller's, or any other person, producing to the said trustees a conveyance or assignment of the right or rights of any or all of the said officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, they, the said trustees, shall make and execute unto the said Nathan Miller, or to any other person having purchased and received conveyance or assignment as aforesaid, the whole right, property and claim of such officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, to hold to him or them, his or their heirs and assigns forever.

And it is also enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the person or persons pur-

chasing of the trustees as aforesaid, shall have and receive all the benefits of the warranty of the said general treasurer, in as full and ample manner as if the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates had executed the said deed or deeds in person, conveying the premises aforesaid.

**An Act to disqualify persons convicted of carrying on an illicit trade with the enemy, from electing or being elected to any office within this state.**

Whereas, it is equitable, and the safety of the state requires, that all persons who have been convicted of carrying on an illicit trade with the enemy, should be rendered incapable of electing or being elected to any office within this state.

It is therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof, that every person who hath, since the first day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, been convicted, or who shall hereafter be convicted, of holding any trade, commerce or intercourse with the common enemy of this state and the United States, shall be, and hereby is, rendered incapable of being elected to any office within this state; and shall also be rendered incapable of giving his vote, either in person or by proxy, for the election of any officer within the same.

It is ordered, that the secretary transmit copies of this act to the several town clerks in this state, within thirty days after the rising of this Assembly.

Whereas, Caleb Harris, Esq., hath exhibited to this Assembly an abstract for the pay and subsistence of a detachment from the troop of horse under the command of Col. Daniel Manton, detached by order of His Honor the Deputy Governor, as an aid to the sheriff in apprehending Abraham Tourtellot, a ringleader of the rioters in Gloucester; and the same having been submitted for examination to Esek Hopkins and Jeremiah Whipple, Esqs., who reported that the sum of twelve pounds, lawful money, is due thereon; and the same being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be accepted; and that the said sum of twelve pounds, lawful money, be paid to the said Caleb Harris, by the general treasurer, out of the next state tax, to discharge the same.

It is voted and resolved, that the nomination of the superintendent of finance, of Edward Chinn, Esq., as commissioner to settle the accounts of this state with the United States, and to liquidate and settle, in specie value, all certificates given by public officers to individuals in the said state, and other claims of such individuals against the United States, in pursuance of a resolution of Congress, of February 20,

A. D. 1782, be, and the same is hereby, approved; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to notify the superintendent of finance hereof.

Whereas, the Rev. James Manning hath presented to this Assembly a petition, representing that the corporation of the college in this state, at their anniversary meeting, at Providence, on the 6th day of September last, voted the sum of one hundred and one pounds, two shillings and eleven pence, lawful money, to the said James Manning, for his services as president of the said college, to be paid out of the interest arising from their fund in the hands of the general treasurer of this state; and prayed that an order may be granted him on the general treasurer, for the payment of said sum, and the interest thereon; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said sum of one hundred and one pounds, two shillings and eleven pence, lawful money, be paid by the general treasurer to the said James Manning, out of the next state tax, with interest thereon from the said 6th day of September till the same shall be paid.

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins, Esq., and Mr. Paul Allen be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the number of boats which, in the course of the war, have been taken from any of the inhabitants of this state, by any officers, for the service of the United States, in the several expeditions against Rhode Island, while the enemy were in possession thereof, or at any other time; and that the said committee, by the best means in their power, ascertain the value of the said boats, and make report to this Assembly at the next session.

Both houses being joined in a grand committee, chose the following gentlemen collectors of excise, to wit:

Robert Crooke, Esq., for the county of Newport; Silas Talbot, Esq., for the county of Providence; James Helme, Esq., for the county of Washington; Jonathan Russell, Esq.,

for the county of Bristol; Stephen Mumford, Esq., for the county of Kent.

Whereas, David Howell, Esq., hath informed this Assembly that he hath in his possession five sets of the journals of Congress, for the use of this state ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said David Howell be requested to deliver the same to the secretary, to be by him delivered to the respective clerks of the inferior court of common pleas in each county, to be and remain for the use of the county.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be requested to send the last schedule printed before the war, containing the then apportionment of taxes on the different towns in this state, and also the schedule containing the last apportionment of taxes, to the delegates of this state in Congress.

Whereas, great difficulties arise within the town of South Kingstown, in collecting and paying the taxes assessed upon them, which this Assembly conceive is in a great measure owing to the large extent of territory within said town; and whereas, for the preservation of good government, upon republican principles, it is necessary that the several parts of the state should be divided into respective jurisdictions as near as possible, thereby rendering more stability and ease to government ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that it is the opinion of this General Assembly, that it will be highly beneficial to this state at large, and of great utility to the inhabitants of said town of South Kingstown, to be divided into two distinct and separate towns; and that a line run, beginning at the channel of the mouth of Pettaquamscut river, that disembogues into the sea, following said channel, leaving Sedge Island on the north; thence running westward to the line which divides Samuel Clarke's farm from the Borland lot, (so called,) continuing said dividing line until it strikes the highway by the Quaker meeting-house; thence

running westward upon the highway to near the mill-pond; thence southward and westward along the highway, or country road, till it comes to the highway near Mr. John Hawkins's, which runs south-west; thence taking said north road, until it comes to the road that runs westward, to and through the ministerial land, to the west bounds of the said town, would be most eligible to divide the same.

And as this Assembly will, upon all occasions and events, endeavor to pass such laws as will be most advantageous to the state at large, and to the inhabitants of the district that it will most apparently effect,—

It is further resolved, that a copy of this vote be immediately transmitted by the secretary to the town clerk of South Kingstown, to be by him communicated to the inhabitants at large of the said town, in order that they may appear, if they think fit, at the next General Assembly, to be holden in May next, to point out and show what disadvantages may arise unto them (if any,) in carrying the proposed plan into execution.

It is voted and resolved, that if any of the collectors of excise shall neglect or refuse to give bonds into the general treasurer's office on or before the 1st day of April next, agreeable to the act for laying an excise, His Excellency the Governor appoint a suitable person within the county where such collector shall refuse or neglect to give bond as aforesaid; and that the person so appointed by His Excellency the Governor, and giving bonds into the treasury, shall be competent, to all intents and purposes whatever, to exercise the office of collector for such county, in as full and ample a manner, until the next general election, as though he were appointed by this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that Ebenezer Thompson, Esq., be, and he hereby is, appointed to prepare the accounts of this state against the United States for adjustment; that he immediately enter on the said business; that when the said accounts are properly prepared for adjustment, he deliver

the same to Mr. Edward Chinn, who is appointed to settle the accounts between the United States and this state; that the said Ebenezer Thompson attend on the said Edward Chinn while he is adjusting the said accounts, and give him such information relating thereto as may be necessary; and that he be allowed twelve shillings per day for every day he shall be employed in the business aforesaid.

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing, Esq., attorney general, be, and he is hereby, appointed to prosecute the persons who received the money paid for the wood which was cut for the use of the French army, in North Providence, and the damages done by said army, for so much money as was paid more than appears to have been justly due by the report of the committee appointed by this Assembly to estimate the said wood and damages; provided the persons possessed of the said monies shall not pay the same to His Honor the Deputy Governor, as directed by a vote of this Assembly, within twenty days after the rising of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that the collectors of taxes in the several towns pay an interest of twelve per cent. on all such sums of money as the several towns for which they are collectors shall be in arrear with the general treasury for taxes after the 1st day of May next; that the said interest commence on the said 1st day of May, and be computed on the sums in arrear till the same shall be paid into the general treasury; and that the said collectors of taxes, in all monies which shall be by them collected after the said 1st day of May, collect, together with the principal sum, the said interest of twelve per cent. from the individuals in their respective towns who shall have neglected to pay their taxes at that time.

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that all the rights and privileges of the Protestant citizens of this state, as declared in and by an act made and passed the 1st day of March, A. D.

1663, be, and the same are hereby, fully extended to Roman Catholic citizens; and that they, being of competent estates, and of civil conversation, and acknowledging and paying obedience to the civil magistrate, shall be admitted freemen, and shall have liberty to choose and be chosen civil or military officers within this state, any exception in the said act to the contrary notwithstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

*£ s. d.*

Joseph Hopkins, Jr., deputy sheriff, for aid and expenses in apprehending and confining Benjamin Case, charged with being concerned in burning and destroying the property of Othniel Gorton and others, in Kent county .....	109	14	0
William Parker and John Slocum, disabled soldiers, each.....	9	0	0
James Dexter, administrator of Simon Dexter, for military services.....	46	14	0
Joseph Bucklin, balance due for a slave named Prince, enlisted into Col. Christopher Greene's regiment.....	35	12	10
Daniel Hall, for loss of horse, killed by sentinels.....	18	12	0
John Brown, for repairs of powder-house in Providence .....	29	6	0
John Barber, for his slave, Ellick Barber, enlisted into Col. Greene's regiment .....	120	0	0
Joseph Case, of North Kingstown, for Prince Case, an enlisted slave.....	90	0	0
William Engs, quartermaster, for his services.....	50	0	0
Wm. Bradford, for services in leasing confiscated estates .....	20	7	5
Job Pearce and others, for materials for Fort Daniel, East Greenwich.....	19	17	4
James Tallman, for the use of his house for an hospital.....	4	16	1
Christopher Ellery, for provisions furnished prisoners of war going in a cartel vessel to New York.....	9	7	4
Col. Jeremiah Olney, expenses for arresting nine deserters.....	90	0	0
David Howell, delegate to Congress.....	183	0	0
Lieut. Oliver Jenckes, wages and subsistence .....	134	10	0
Daniel Manton, pay abstract for a detachment of troops employed in apprehending a number of rioters in Gloucester.....	20	16	6
John Cooke, for removing cannon and public stores from Butts's Hill to Bristol Ferry.....	11	18	8
Capt. John Carr, pay and subsistence of his company at Newport, December, 1782.....	71	9	11
Lieut. Philip Corey, do. do. of his company, for doing duty at Tiverton, in 1779.....	130	10	8
Henry Northup, pay of soldiers for doing duty at North Kingstown, September and October, 1778.....	15	6	11
Lieut. Henry Shearman, do. do., doing duty at Tiverton, May, 1779 .....	18	3	9
Ensign Thomas Durfee, do. do. do., at Tiverton, October, 1779 .....	42	7	6

It is voted and resolved, that this Assembly be, and hereby is, adjourned to the Tuesday next preceding the first Wednesday in May next, if then called; but if not called before nor at that time, that then this Assembly be, and hereby is, dissolved.

God save the United States of America.

*Jonathan Arnold, Delegate in Congress, to Governor Greene.*

Philadelphia, December 6, 1782.

Sir:—I have nothing more to communicate in respect to public affairs, but what the extracts from the journals of Congress and my colleague's and my joint letters will do. Yet I cannot refrain from troubling your Excellency with a few observations upon the conduct of Mr. Howell, since my arrival in this city, and which I believe, from various reasons, has been invariably the same ever since he had a seat in Congress.

It appears to have been his first and only wish to serve his country, generally, and especially his constituents, with unshaken fidelity. He has had no separate, interested views, to lead him from those objects. He clearly understood the force of the articles of confederation, and distinguished between the rights relinquished by the separate states, and those retained; and on this, appeared desirous to fix his decisions on such questions as were discussed. On other occasional and detached points,—he ever shewed a desire to justice, consistent with honor and economy, and judging that in many instances, the gratuities and salaries of the civil officers was beyond what the present circumstances of the people could well bear,—he has missed no proper opportunities of speaking freely his opinion thereon, and to enforce the necessity of their reduction. He has been zealous and active in endeavoring to obtain justice in regard to the Western territory, part of which is already ceded. He has also exerted himself to obtain some effectual measures whereby the public accounts might be collected and settled upon constitutional principles, and the public credit thereby restored, without the necessity of recurrence to measures unknown in, and contrary to, such principles; but I am sorry to say in this, his exertions have hitherto proved fruitless. For his conduct in the preceding matters, he has been looked upon in an invidious light by those whose principles and conduct have been opposed to him. He has been treated with a coldness and indifference which must have been extremely mortifying to his feelings, and which, to avoid, would have swerved from the purpose any one not endowed with an uncommon share of firmness.

As he is soon to return, I have reason to expect the inveterate enmity which his honest and patriotic zeal in his country's cause has raised in the breasts of those to whom he has necessarily been opposed, will be exerted and follow him to his home; and that the most unremitting industry will be used to injure him in the state he has with so much integrity represented. My duty, therefore, to the state, to prevent impositions upon them, and to him, as a colleague in whose confidence and friendship I have been singularly happy during my residence here, and with whom I have on most occasions been united in sentiment, as to public measures, obliged me,—unknown to him,—to give this public testimony of his conduct.

Hoping and trusting, whilst his principles and conduct continue as at present, he

will have the love and esteem, as well as the approbation and support, of his constituents, and be considered, as he really is, a very worthy and able defender of their rights and liberties,

I have the honor to be, with the highest sentiments of respect and esteem,

Your Excellency's very humble servant,

JONATHAN ARNOLD.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Jonathan Arnold to Governor Greene.*

Philadelphia, December 18, 1782.

Sir:—I have to inform you that, although Mr. Collins arrived here this day week, Mr. Howell is still here, and how much longer he will be detained is unknown;—Congress having taken such measures, affecting him personally, and relative to his public conduct, which renders his stay of absolute necessity. He has vindicated himself with a firmness becoming a representative of a free state; and as the liberties of the state, and its rights by confederation, I conceived to be invaded by the measures pursued against him, he has had every support I could afford him. This has drawn on me the attention of Congress, and I am included with Mr. Howell in a resolution of this day, for referring to a committee a certain motion made by Mr. Howell and seconded by me,—wherein were asserted the rights of a delegate, and the dangerous tendency of the measures pursuing, to their privileges, and to the liberties and privileges of the United States, in the form of a declaration and protest. I have not time to copy and enclose it by this, but shall forward it by the next opportunity. Where and when the matter will end, is impossible to say; but hope it will not change the resolution of the Assembly in respect to the impost, (which I am persuaded it is calculated to do.) I am certain it cannot, when the matter is fully known;—and instead thereof, it might fix their opinion as expressed in the third reason which they stated to Congress, when they communicated their refusal therewith.

Mr. Collins being absent, and the post just setting off, I have not the opportunity to write jointly with him.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect for your Excellency,

And the Honorable Assembly, your most humble servant,

JONATHAN ARNOLD.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Jonathan Arnold to Governor Greene.*

Philadelphia, January 8, 1783.

Sir:—The return of my late colleague, Mr. Howell, prevents the necessity of my writing particularly on public affairs, as he will be able to give every information in that regard. But the duty I owe to the state obliges me to give an account of the extraordinary proceedings in Congress towards that gentleman;—to do which, it is necessary, in the first place, to inform that a large majority of the members of Congress had the most sanguine views of obtaining the proposed Continental impost of 5 per cent., which was held out by them as the only means of restoring public credit, of preventing a disunion of the states, and saving the country from immediate ruin; in short, it was extolled as the infallible, grand political catholicon, by which every evil was to be avoided, and every advantage derived. Of consequence, everything done in opposition to that darling measure, placed the doer in the most obnoxious point of view.

This was Mr. Howell's situation at my arrival, since which I have had the honor to share a part of the burthen.

From circumstances, it was soon obvious that the favorers and expectants of that measure considered him as the chief stumbling stone in the way to their wishes; and directly after intelligence arrived in this city, that the Assembly of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations had rejected the impost, (and previous to the arrival of any official account thereof,) the proceedings contained in the extract from the journals, No. 1, took place; and the same day, December 6th, a deputation was appointed to go to Rhode Island, to urge a compliance with the impost. By the latter, the design of the former was very evident. But prudence dictated silence in regard to the proceedings, until a further progress should determine in what manner the gathering storm would fall.

On the 12th of December, Mr. Collins gave the letter of the speaker of the lower house of Assembly to the president of Congress; which being read, the motion and proceedings was made and took place, as in the extract of the journals, No. 3; and the same day, the committee above mentioned reported, as by the extract No. 2 of that day appears.

It was now beyond a doubt that the proceedings originated in a fixed design to ruin Mr. Howell's credit and character with the state he served, and thereby destroy that influence he was supposed to have in opposing the impost, their favorite object.

To prevent further trouble, Mr. Howell, after deliberating upon the matter, avowed himself to be the writer of a letter from which it was probable the extract referred to in the report was taken, and averred the facts therein stated to be true, as could be shown from the letters, &c., on the files of Congress.

During this progress, the deputation were preparing for their tour. A committee by appointment had drawn up a very lengthy performance, wherein a state of public affairs, foreign and domestic, was laboriously wrought up to the liking of a majority of Congress, who received and approved it, and of which I shall say nothing more at present, as I mean to forward a copy thereof as soon as it can be procured.

In the meantime, sundry letters were received from Europe, which it was declared necessary should be kept secret; and many transactions respecting the deputation wore an aspect which I could not reconcile to my own feelings. Secrecy was enjoined upon members of Congress, in matters public in the city, and daily publishing in the newspapers; until I was obliged to declare upon the floor, that in matters where the necessity therefor could not be pointed out, and which I deemed interesting to the state I had the honor to represent to be informed of, I should not hold myself bound by a majority from making the necessary communications thereof to my constituents.

As a circumstantial detail of the many particulars which took place during the prosecution of my colleague, would draw out a letter to too great a length, I must beg leave to refer generally to the extracts herewith enclosed, and will mention such things only as tend to explain them, and such further proceedings, of which copies cannot be procured.

On the 18th of December, a motion was before the house for repealing the resolution for the secretary for foreign affairs to write to the state, requesting the author of said letter to be given up, as it was said in the motion, "Mr. Howell, a delegate from the state of Rhode Island, having acknowledged himself the author," &c. It would appear by a motion thus expressed, that Mr. Howell not only acknowledged himself the author thereof, but that he submitted to the stigma the committee had fixed upon it in their report, which was entered on the journals. Therefore, this was warmly opposed by Mr. Howell, and in which I supported him. But when the members seemed determined to bring his name on the journals in that disagreeable view, Mr.

Howell then offered his declaration and protest, which appears in the extract enclosed, No. 2.

And though from the first, it was my fixed intent to support my colleague so far as I could with truth and justice, yet I felt a reluctance at bringing on the journals what must place Congress in a view which was painful to me; and after seconding his motion, I desired him to withdraw it, to make way for an amendment which I wished to make to the motion first before the house. He withdrew it, and I moved the amendment in the words following: "Mr. Howell having acknowledged himself to be the author of a letter from which he supposes the extract to have been taken, and that when he wrote the same he believed, and still believes, the representations therein made to be consistent with matters of fact, which may be proved by authentic letters and documents on the files of Congress." After waiting the usual time, the president informed me I was not seconded. At this moment, I must confess, I felt, from a variety of passions which were thereby excited, an anxiety I was never before sensible of on any occasion. It appeared that the ruin of my colleague was irrevocably fixed and determined on.

It now became necessary, as the only resource, that he should renew his motion, which he did, and was seconded; and calling the yeas and nays, brought it upon the journals.

In consequence of this, another committee was appointed upon us both,—which, and their report given in, on the 18th December, is in extract No. 2. By this the secretary for foreign affairs is to transmit to the state, together with the doings of Congress, "an authenticated state of the several applications for foreign loans, and the result thereof."

Apprehensive whether the same turn of thinking which actuated the first committee in their report, might not affect in stating those matters, (apart from other and personal considerations, and judging it would be more satisfactory to your Excellency and the Assembly, to have the letters and papers themselves, whereby to form a state conformable to your judgments, rather than to take the constructions, comments, glosses and colorings of either party,) every leisure hour until the 2d day of January, was taken up in procuring a knowledge of the letters, &c., necessary to be forwarded on this occasion, in addition to what was already ordered. Which being summed up in the form of a resolution, I moved it, seconded by Mr. Collins; and the yeas and nays being called, various manœuvres were tried to prevent its effect, but in vain; until I was surprised by a motion to transfer the motions, with the subsequent proceedings, to the secret journals, which was carried, although the motion did not, upon a scrutiny, contain anything under injunction of secrecy, nor related to any matter pointed out by the articles of confederation, as the subjects for those journals. It would have given me great satisfaction to have been able to forward a resolve of the purport of No. 4, but of this, by the proceedings above mentioned, I am prevented.\*

Discouraged from a further trial, Mr. Howell set out to return on the 6th instant.

Although by these matters his stay has been protracted about two weeks, yet I cannot doubt but your Excellency and the Honorable Assembly will be with me in opinion, that the time has been spent in discharging a duty, and for the honor and interest of the state. Thereby a capital, and I hope fatal, stroke has been given to a system which, had it prevailed, I have no doubt would either have involved the country in fresh and unsuspected scenes of distress, or terminated in the destruction of the liberties of the states as established by confederation; and I am persuaded, by the convictions which already appear, similar attempts will not be soon made in Congress to infringe the rights of a member of their body.

\* The resolution here referred to, will be found in a note to "Resolutions relative to the conduct of the delegates of this state in Congress," page 667, where it was inserted by mistake.

No official intelligence is yet arrived of the evacuation of Charlestown, but it seems now beyond a doubt to have taken place. This is the only important news, and on which please to accept my congratulations.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's very humble servant,

JONATHAN ARNOLD.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Report of the Committee of Congress, relative to Mr. Howell.*

By the United States in Congress assembled.

January 14th, 1783.

The committee to whom were referred a motion of Mr. Arnold, for transmitting to the executive of Rhode Island sundry extracts of public letters from Europe, and some subsequent motions thereon, report:—

That, in their opinion, it would be improper for Congress to concur in the object of that motion, as with respect to a part of the extracts specified relating merely to the general growing political importance of these states, the injunction of secrecy being taken off, any member who inclines to communicate them to his state, may take copies of them; and more especially, as Mr. Howell was furnished with complete copies of letters, from which particular detached sentences are now requested. And with respect to such extracts as relate to the subject of foreign loans, they are already within the purview of the resolution of the 20th of December last, directing the secretary for foreign affairs to transmit to the executive of the state of Rhode Island an authenticated state of the applications for foreign loans, and the result. That the same observation applies to that part of the motion which relates generally to the transmission of the letters from our foreign ministers on the subject of loans, not under the injunction of secrecy; with this additional consideration, that such of those letters as would in fact throw light upon the subject, comprehend many delicate transactions which it is the duty of Congress, at the present juncture, to conceal. The committee, notwithstanding, are of opinion that, to obviate misrepresentation, it will be advisable to transmit to the executive of the state of Rhode Island a copy of Mr. Arnold's motion, and the proceedings thereupon, with a request that precautions may be taken to prevent their appearing in the public prints.

On the question—Resolved, that Congress agree to the said report.

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

*Elias Boudinot to Governor Greene.*

Philadelphia, 16th January, 1783.

Sir:—Agreeably to the directions of Congress, I have the honor of enclosing to your Excellency certified copies of several acts of Congress; on which there needs no comment.

The necessity of preventing partial and unconnected extracts taken from the letters of our confidential servants at foreign courts, from becoming public, is too obvious to require me to enforce the opinion of Congress on that head; as from such a measure, all confidence in Congress, by our allies and ministers abroad, would be necessarily foreclosed.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's obedient and very humble servant,

ELIAS BOUDINOT.

To His Excellency the Governor of Rhode Island.

*Proceedings in Congress relative to Mr. Howell.*

By the United States in Congress assembled.

December 12th, 1782.

The committee, consisting of Mr. Williamson, Mr. Carroll and Mr. Madison, appointed to consider how far the honor of Congress and the finances of the United States may be affected by some late publications on the subject of foreign loans, &c., report:—

"That among the different publications which have lately been made, concerning foreign loans, they have particularly attended to a very remarkable extract of a letter published in the Boston Gazette, of November 10th, 1782, under the Providence head, which is there said to be an 'extract of a letter from a gentleman in Philadelphia, to his friend in that town, dated October 16th,' in which are the following observations: 'This day letters have been read in Congress, from Mr. Adams, of the 16th of August, and Mr. Dumas, his secretary, of the 19th. The loan he is negotiating fills as fast as could be expected. The national importance of the United States is constantly rising in the estimation of European powers and the civilized world. Such is their credit, that they have of late failed in no application for foreign loans; and the only danger on that score, is that of contracting too large a debt.'

"Your committee have examined the several letters that have been received from Mr. Adams, your minister at the Hague, in the course of the last six months, as well as those from Mr. Dumas, and the sundry letters which have been received from your ministers at Versailles and Madrid, on the subject of loans, in the course of the present year, and they are sorry to observe that the positions just referred to on the subject of loans, are not only ill founded, but some of them are expressly contradicted by the letters of your ministers at foreign courts. And whereas, the above extract, from its date and particular mention of other dates, is so drawn as to give reason to suspect that it was written by a member of Congress, or by some person officially entrusted with their papers; and as the duty and honor of Congress require that they should endeavor to detect and prevent misrepresentations of this kind,—

"Resolved, that the secretary for foreign affairs be instructed to write to the executive of Rhode Island, requesting them to inquire through what channel the above communication was made, or who is the supposed author of the extract referred to, and report accordingly."

Resolved, that Congress agree to the said report.

December 18th, 1782.

A motion being before the house in the following words, "That the secretary for foreign affairs be discharged from the instruction given him on the 12th instant, Mr. Howell, a delegate from the state of Rhode Island, having acknowledged himself the author of the extract of the letter quoted in the report of the committee," a motion was made by Mr. Howell to postpone the consideration of the motion before the house, to make way for one he read in his place, in the words following: "David Howell, of Providence, in the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, now a delegate in Congress for the said state, having in his place made the following declaration, viz.: That he hath, in sundry letters to his constituents, written largely on the public affairs, both foreign and domestic, of the United States, particularly in a letter of fifteen pages in folio, directed to His Excellency William Greene, Esq., governor of said state, and in another, less copious, directed to John Carter, Esq., printer of the Providence Gazette, from one of which he doubts not was extracted a certain paragraph in the Providence Gazette, of the 2d day of November last, as follows, viz.: · This day letters have

been read in Congress, from Mr. Adams, of the 16th of August, Mr. Dumas, his secretary, of the 19th. The loan he is negotiating fills as fast as can be expected. \* \* \* The national importance of the United States is constantly arising in the estimation of European powers and the civilized world. \* \* \* Such is their credit, that they have of late failed in no application for foreign loans; and the danger on that score, is that of contracting too large a debt.' \* \* \* Desunt von nulla. \* \* \* But not having copies of said letters, he is at present unable to identify the words and sentences;—the substance he avows to have written, not only in said letters, but others on sundry occasions. At the same time absolutely protesting generally against any power exercised, or claimed by Congress, to call any member of their body to account for any information which he may think proper to communicate to his constituents, (the secrets only of Congress excepted.) and more especially against any power in the present Congress to call to account a member of the late Congress. Further alleging and protesting, that the resolve of the — day of December instant, appointing a committee of Congress on late publications, is a departure from the dignity of Congress, and tends to establish a precedent dangerous to the freedom of the press, the palladium of liberty, civil and religious; and that the resolve of the — day of December instant, accepting the report of said committee, against a certain paragraph in a newspaper, and demanding the writer thereof to be delivered up by the executive of the state of Rhode Island, is in effect an infraction of the fifth article of the confederation, which allows *freedom of speech and debate in Congress*, and of course a free communication of such speeches and debates to their constituents, by the members of Congress, without being accountable to that body for the propriety of what is said, debated or communicated. And declaring that the facts stated in said paragraph, respecting foreign loans, are substantially true, and can be established by authentic documents in possession of Congress, there having been no eventual and final failure in any late application. That the opinions advanced were such as he entertained and declared on the floor of Congress, when the sum of a foreign loan was agitated, as the yeas and nays on the journal will manifest, and such as he still retains, and in which he is not alone. That great injustice may be done to the most cautious writer, by publishing a single paragraph only of a letter, (of which, however, he does not in this case complain;) and still greater by a committee of Congress reporting only a part of such paragraphs, and thereby fixing it on the journals in such a detached and maimed condition, of which he does complain, and alleges that such proceeding threatens the privileges and endangers the characters of members of Congress. That such a mode of inquisition, established by authority of Congress, has a tendency to erect a system of despotism, by deterring the minority from writing freely to their constituents such things as they have a right to know, lest their letters should be intercepted, published, and in detached paragraphs injuriously fixed on the journals of Congress, by an overbearing majority. That it is well known that in his private opinion he is, has been, and has a right to be, against the five per cent. impost. His constituents expected him to oppose it; that he has been faithful to them in that particular, will not be denied. He is happy to find that the state he has the honor to represent has unanimously rejected that dangerous measure, by a solemn determination of the lower house of Assembly, on the 1st day of November last, fifty-three members being present. If the part he has taken in that regard, has drawn on him the resentment of any, he will endeavor to sustain it with a fortitude becoming the cause of freedom and his country, which in every part of his conduct he has uniformly supported, and for proof appeals to the journals of Congress. His constituents have hitherto approved his conduct, and he trusts they will not fail to support him. He considers himself as their servant, and to them alone he is accountable for his doings; and under them, the servant of the United States, and not the servant of Congress."

The declaration and protest foregoing being duly considered,—

Resolved, that the resolution of ——, in the words following, viz.: “Resolved, that the secretary for foreign affairs be instructed to write to the executive of Rhode Island, requesting them to inquire through what channel the above communication was made, or who is the supposed author of the extract referred to, and report accordingly,” be, and the same is hereby, revoked.

This motion of Mr. Howell being seconded by Mr. Arnold, and on the question to agree to it the yeas and nays being required by Mr. Howell, it was decided in the negative.

A question was then taken on the motion before the house, whereupon it was—

Resolved, that the secretary for foreign affairs be discharged from the instruction given him on the 12th instant, Mr. Howell, a delegate from the state of Rhode Island, having acknowledged himself the author of the extract of the letter quoted in the report of the committee of that day.

A motion was then made by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Carroll, in the words following: “Congress having, in respect to the articles of confederation, admitted on their journals an entry of a motion made by Mr. Howell, seconded by Mr. Arnold, highly derogatory to the honor and dignity of the United States in Congress assembled,—

Resolved, that a committee be appointed to report such measures as it will be proper for Congress to take thereupon.

A motion was made by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Howell, to strike out the words “highly derogatory to the honor and dignity of the United States in Congress assembled.” And on the question, Shall the words moved to be struck out stand, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. Arnold, it was carried in the affirmative.

On the question to agree to the motion—Resolved in the affirmative.

Members chosen for the foregoing committee—Mr. Gilman, Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Madison.

December 20th, 1782.

On the report of the committee appointed to report such measures as it will be proper for Congress to take in consequence of the motion made by Mr. Howell, on the 18th instant,—

Resolved, that the said motion, with the preceding resolutions of Congress to which it refers, be transmitted by the secretary for foreign affairs to the executive authority of the state of Rhode Island, with an authenticated state of the several applications for foreign loans, and the result thereof.

Extract from the minutes.

GEO. BOND, Dep. Sec'y.

**The United States in Congress assembled.**

December 12th, 1782.

A letter of the 30th of November, from the speaker of the lower house of Assembly of the state of Rhode Island, being read, a motion was made by Mr. Howell, seconded by Mr. Arnold, in the words following:—

“Whereas, a letter to His Excellency the President of Congress, from the lower house of Assembly of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, hath been this day read in Congress, in the words and figures following, to wit:—

‘ East Greenwich, 30th November, 1782.

‘ Sir:—In obedience to the direction of the lower house of Assembly of this state, I have the honor to enclose to your Excellency their unanimous resolution on the recommendation of Congress, respecting an impost on imported goods, &c., and to state some of the principal reasons which produced that resolution. The recommendation

was rejected, first, because it would be unequal in its operation, bearing hardest on the most commercial states, and so would press peculiarly hard upon this state, which draws its chief support from commerce. Secondly, because it proposes to introduce into this and the other states officers unknown and unaccountable to them, and so is against the constitution of this state. And thirdly, because, by granting to Congress a power to collect monies from the commerce of these states, indefinitely as to time and quantity, and for the expenditure of which they are not to be accountable to the states, they would become independent of their constituents, and so the proposed impost is repugnant to the liberty of the United States. Many more reasons might be offered, and the subject drawn out to a great length, by descending to particulars; but these are sufficient to answer the main design of the house, which is to show a decent respect to the states which have differed from them in opinion upon this subject. This state may be justly ranked among the foremost in the common cause, having furnished in support of it as many men and as much money, in proportion to its abilities, as any state in the Union, and much more than most of them; and it is still disposed to continue its exertions; but it will raise and collect its quota of public taxes in such a way as shall be judged most proper. And it is hoped that when its resolutions are founded on the great principles of liberty and a general interest, it will not be thought to suspect the public virtue of the present Congress, by withholding from them or their servants a power of which their successors might make a dangerous use.

'With the highest sentiments of respect for your Excellency, and the Honorable Assembly over which you preside, I am your Excellency's most obedient servant,

WILLIAM BRADFORD, Speaker.'

"Wherefore—Resolved, that the resolution of the 6th of December instant, for appointing a deputation to be sent to the state of Rhode Island, for the purpose of making a full and just representation of the public affairs of the United States, and of urging the absolute necessity of a compliance with the resolution of Congress of the 3d day of February, 1781, respecting the duty on imports and prizes, as a measure essential to the safety and reputation of these states, be, and the same is hereby repealed."

On this motion, the previous question was moved by the state of New York, seconded by the state of New Hampshire, that the question be not now put; and on the question to agree to the previous question, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. Howell, it was resolved in the affirmative, and the main question was set aside.

Extract from the minutes.

GEO. BOND, Dep. Sec'y.

*Chevalier de la Luzerne to Governor Greene.*

Philadelphia, 10th January, 1783.

Sir:—His Majesty has been informed of the demonstrations of joy which the state of Rhode Island has exhibited upon the occasion of the birth of Monseigneur the Dauphin. He has beheld with much satisfaction the part which the citizens of your state have taken upon this auspicious event. The King commands me to make known his sensibility upon this occasion, and charges me, at the same time, to assure the citizens and inhabitants of the state of Rhode Island of his affection, and of the particular interest he shall ever take in their prosperity.

I have the honor to be, with respect and attachment, sir,

Your Excellency's very humble and obedient servant,

LE CHEVALIER DE LA LUZERNE.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Governor Greene to Governor Hancock.*

Providence, February 28, 1783.

Sir:—Deputy Governor Bowen informs me that some time ago he wrote to your Excellency respecting the disorderly proceedings of certain persons belonging to Massachusetts, Connecticut and this state, in endeavoring to prevent the collection of taxes, but hath received no answer. Since which, their insolence hath so increased, that they have by violence rescued persons from the civil authority when upon trial for forcibly taking cattle from the collector, attached for the payment of taxes. The authority of this state caused one Tourtelot, who appears to be a principal ringleader in these disturbances, to be apprehended and confined in close gaol for trial. In consequence whereof, these deluded people have given out the most daring menaces, and have had several meetings, with an avowed design to release Tourtelot, and to put a total stop to the payment of taxes: and that some of them proceeded so far as to deny the authority of the state, and to huzza for King George and Great Britain. The principal persons concerned in these riots belong to Uxbridge, Douglass, and some other of the neighboring towns of Massachusetts and Connecticut. For the above mentioned purposes, they openly notified a general meeting, to be holden at one Inman's, in Gloucester, on Saturday last. It was thought high time to give a check to such outrages, as tended to subvert all government, and might lead to the most unhappy consequences; and the high sheriff of the county of Providence, with a sufficient armed force, had orders to proceed to Inman's, to break up the meeting, and to apprehend the principal ringleaders. He accordingly apprehended fourteen of them, who are all confined in close gaol for trial; of whom, six belong to Uxbridge, namely, Rufus Hart, Sweeting Taft, Benjamin Thompson, Job Pitts, Benjamin Aldrich and Stephen Cooke.

I am requested by the General Assembly to give you this information, which I desire you to lay before your General Court, at this present session, that spirited means may be adopted for putting an entire stop to such unlawful and dangerous proceedings.

I am favored with your Excellency's letter respecting the proposed convention of the five Eastern states, which is now before our General Assembly.

I have the honor to be, with great esteem, &c.,

WM. GREENE.

To His Excellency Governor Hancock.

*Robert R. Livingston to Governor Greene.*

Philadelphia, 24th March, 1783.

Sir:—I have the honor to enclose an abstract of the preliminary articles for a general peace, signed 20th January, 1783. They were brought by a vessel that arrived last night from Cadiz, dispatched by Count d'Estaing, to re-call the cruisers and privates of His Most Christian Majesty and his subjects.

Though not official, they leave no room to doubt this happy event, on which I sincerely congratulate your Excellency. When the wisdom of the United States shall have re-established their credit, and strengthened their bond of union, which will doubtless be the first work of peace, we shall have every reason to hope that this will be a happy and flourishing country.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Jonathan Arnold to Governor Greene.*

Philadelphia, March 28th, 1783.

Sir:—In my last, I had only to inform your Excellency that the preliminary articles for a peace had been agreed to between the ministers of the United States and those of His Britannic Majesty. I have now the pleasure of presenting my congratulations upon the arrival of undoubted intelligence that preliminaries had been agreed to by all the belligerent powers, and that the definitive treaty for a general peace is momentarily expected.

I had just time per the last post to forward two papers, under cover to Gov. Bowen, containing a summary of the principal articles, together with the orders of the Comte d'Estaing for a cessation of hostilities by sea, one of which I requested him to forward immediately to you.

The consequent resolves of Congress will be forwarded by the secretary for foreign affairs.

Two days before the arrival of this intelligence, Congress passed a resolution, of which the enclosed is a copy. The late uneasiness which arose in the army, upon the return of their committee from Congress,—artfully excited, as is supposed, by some insidious enemy, and which, in its first appearances, threatened a general mutiny, but which, by the prudence and wisdom of their illustrious General, terminated happily, and much to the honor of the officers,—I have no doubt tended to precipitate that resolution. Every effort was made to obtain a reference of the officers to their respective states for compensation, but in vain.

Whilst acting against that measure, I was happy in possessing sentiments coinciding with the instructions of my constituents, and to believe those instructions were founded in the most worthy motives,—of guarding against the violation of the constitutions of the states, and the preservation of the rights and privileges which those constitutions secured, and which it was feared would be endangered by such an establishment.

The affair of a general impost, which has engrossed a great part of the time since the commencement of the present year, is yet incomplete. I had flattered myself that the arrival of intelligence of peace would put a stop to the proceedings, as thereby the formidable plea of necessity would be in a measure superceded; and as it could not be doubted but the states, when eased of the immediate expenses of prosecuting the war, and enjoying, unmolested, the advantages to be derived from agriculture and commerce, would be able to draw out their resources timely and sufficient to answer the necessary and constitutional requisitions of Congress, for the support of the Federal government, and for the satisfaction of the creditors of the public. But in this I was mistaken. Ideas of the necessity of forming a general system of finance, (which will throw a share of the power and strength of government now held by the states into the hands of Congress,) seems in the minds of some to prevail over every other consideration; and it appears that nothing will give satisfaction, but to send out the impost, differently modified, for another trial amongst the states. I shall now feel little uneasiness for its fate, from a confidence that the wisdom of the states is fully apprised as to its consequences.

No intelligence on which I can rely has been received of the doings of the Assembly at their last session. The last post brought me neither letters nor papers. I wish for the earliest information with respect to every matter which may be designed either for my attention or direction.

With the greatest respect, I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's very humble servant,

JONATHAN ARNOLD.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Robert R. Livingston to Governor Greene.*

Philadelphia, 12th April, 1783.

Sir:—Permit me to offer you my congratulations on the important event announced by the United States in Congress, in the enclosed proclamation for the cessation of hostilities,—an event which is not only pleasing, as it relieves us from the accumulated distresses of war in the bowels of our country, but as it affords the fairest and most flattering prospects of its future greatness and prosperity. I need not, I am perswaded, sir, use any arguments to urge your Excellency, and the state in which you preside, to the most scrupulous attention to the execution of every stipulation in our treaty which may depend upon you or them. A national character is now to be acquired. I venture to hope that it will be worthy of the struggles by which we became a nation.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*General Washington to Governor Greene.*

[Circular.]

Head-Quarters, April 14th, 1783.

Sir:—Previous to the disbanding the army,—an event which it is wished may take place with as much ease and satisfaction as circumstances will admit,—Congress have directed that a complete settlement and liquidation of all their accounts should be made. To effect this, the paymaster general is arrived, with full instructions to enter immediately upon the settlement, and to complete it as soon as possible. In performing this duty, he informs me that recourse must be had to the several states for their accounts, if they have any, against their respective lines. This requisition, probably, may have been, or will be, made by Mr. Morris; but as I consider it of the utmost importance, both for the ease and quiet of the army, as well as in point of economy to the public, that this business should be effected with all the dispatch that it is possible to give it, I have procured from the paymaster general the enclosed estimates of what he judges necessary to obtain from the states, as part of the ground of his settlement; which I take the liberty to transmit to your Excellency, with my most earnest request that you will be pleased to give directions that the earliest attention may be given to forward, with the least delay, to Mr. Pierce, paymaster general, whatever information, accounts or papers, shall, on examination of his minutes, be found necessary, together with any other papers or documents which may be thought proper from your state, to effect the settlement proposed.

I have taken this liberty, the rather as it is judged that on a supposition of the utmost dispatch in the states, the greatest delay in completing this very important settlement, will most probably arise from the time necessary to obtain their accounts.

I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency Governor Greene.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Newport, on the first Wednesday in May, 1783.*

The following named officers, declared elected, were duly engaged:

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

ASSISTANTS.

Welcome Arnold, Esq.,  
Thomas Wells, Esq.,  
Joseph Brown, Esq.,  
Richard Searle, Esq..  
Gideon Mumford, Esq.,

Sylvester Gardner, Esq.,  
Enoch Hazard, Esq.,  
Thomas G. Hazard, Esq.,  
John Cooke, Esq.,  
John Smith, Esq., of Gloucester.

DEPUTIES.

*Newport.*

William Taggart, Esq.,  
John Topham, Esq.,  
Mr. Nicholas P. Tillinghast,  
Mr. Robert Stevens,  
Mr. William Tripp,  
Mr. Nicholas Taylor.

*Providence.*

John Smith, Esq.,  
Mr. John Brown,  
Mr. Paul Allen,  
Mr. Thomas Jenkins.

*Portsmouth.*

John Thurston, Esq.,

Mr. Alexander Thomas,  
Mr. William Anthony, Jr.,  
Mr. Robert Lawton.  
*Warwick.*  
John Warner, Esq.,  
Mr. Thomas Remington,  
James Arnold, Jr., Esq.,  
Mr. William Potter.

*Westerly.*

Joseph Noyes, Esq.,  
Mr. David Maxson.

*New Shoreham.*

Mr. John Sands.

<i>North Kingstown.</i>	<i>Bristol.</i>
William Hammond, Esq., George Thomas, (son of Sam.) Esq.	William Bradford, Esq., Nathaniel Fales, Esq.
<i>South Kingstown.</i>	<i>Tiverton.</i>
Rouse J. Helme, Esq., Mr. George Brown.	Lemuel Bailey, Esq., Mr. Benjamin Howland.
<i>East Greenwich.</i>	<i>Little Compton.</i>
Archibald Crary, Esq., Benjamin Tillinghast, Esq.	Mr. Daniel Wilbur, Mr. Joseph Giffard.
<i>Jamestown.</i>	<i>Warren.</i>
Mr. Aaron Sheffield, Mr. Benjamin Remington.	Nathan Miller, Esq., Robert Carr, Esq.
<i>Smithfield.</i>	<i>Cumberland.</i>
Elisha Mowry, Esq., Mr. Stephen Arnold, Jr.	John Dexter, Esq., Nathaniel Shepardson, Esq.
<i>Scituate.</i>	<i>Richmond.</i>
William Rhodes, Esq., Rufus Hopkins, Esq.	Mr. William Tefft, Mr. Samuel Clarke.
<i>Glocester.</i>	<i>Cranston.</i>
Daniel Owen, Esq., Stephen Steere, Esq.	Mr. Matthew Manchester, Nehemiah Knight, Esq.
<i>Charlestown.</i>	<i>Hopkinton.</i>
Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq., Jonathan J. Hazard, Esq.	Abel Tanner, Esq., George Thurston, Esq.
<i>West Greenwich.</i>	<i>Johnston.</i>
Thomas Gorton, Esq., Mr. Samuel Hopkins, Jr.	Abraham Belknap, Esq., Caleb Harris, Esq.
<i>Coventry.</i>	<i>North Providence.</i>
Mr. Jeremiah Fenner, Stephen Potter, Esq.	Esek Hopkins, Esq., John Jenckes, Esq.
<i>Exeter.</i>	<i>Barrington.</i>
Mr. Pardon Tillinghast, Mr. Thomas Wilcox.	Mr. Vial Allen, Samuel Allen, Esq.
<i>Middletown.</i>	<i>Foster.</i>
Mr. Nicholas Easton, Mr. John Manchester.	Mr. John Williams, William Tyler, Esq.

The Hon. William Bradford, Esq., speaker; and Benjamin Bourne, Esq., clerk.

Henry Ward, Esq., secretary.

William Channing, Esq., attorney general.

Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer.

DELEGATES TO REPRESENT THE STATE IN CONGRESS.

The Honorable William Ellery, Esq.

The Honorable Jonathan Arnold, Esq.

The Honorable David Howell, Esq.

The Honorable Henry Marchant, Esq.

JUSTICES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

Paul Mumford, Esq., chief; Peter Phillips, Esq., second; Thomas Tillinghast, Esq., third; Pardon Gray, Esq., fourth; Jonathan Jenckes, Esq., fifth.

It is voted and resolved, that the act of this Assembly, heretofore passed, making a certain allowance by the day to the justices of the superior court of judicature, &c., be, and the same is hereby, repealed; provided, nevertheless, that the present justices of the said court shall receive the said daily allowance until the next general election.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the salaries of the said justices in future be as follows, to wit: To the chief justice of the said court, thirty pounds, lawful money, per annum; and to each of the assistant justices, the sum of twenty-four pounds, lawful money, per annum, over and above the lawful fees of the said court; and that the said salaries commence at the next election.

It is voted and resolved, that none of the justices of the inferior courts of common pleas shall, during their sustaining the said offices, be members of either house of this Assembly; provided, nevertheless, that any member of this

Assembly, who shall be chosen a justice of any court of common pleas, shall be allowed to hold his seat as a member during the present session.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if any member of this Assembly shall be elected to the office of a justice of either of the courts of common pleas during the present session, he shall declare, before the rising of this Assembly, which of the said places or offices he means to sustain and hold.

Both houses being again resolved into a grand committee, proceeded upon the election of officers, as follows, to wit:

JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR NEWPORT COUNTY.

William Richmond, Esq., chief; Christopher Ellery, Esq., second; Timothy Waterhouse, Esq., third; Thomas Shearman, Esq., fourth; Henry Bliss, Esq., fifth.

JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR PROVIDENCE COUNTY.

Richard Steere, Esq., chief; Jeremiah Whipple, Esq., second; Caleb Aldrich, Esq., third; Caleb Fisk, Esq., fourth; Caleb Harris, Esq., fifth.

JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Samuel Babcock, Esq., chief; Edward Perry, Esq., second; Abel Tanner, Esq., third; Robert Potter, Esq., fourth; Sylvester Gardner, Esq., fifth.

JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR BRISTOL COUNTY.

John Child, Esq., chief; Joseph Reynolds, Esq., second; William T. Miller, Esq., third; Elkanah Humphry, Esq., fourth; Shearashub Bourne, Esq., fifth.

JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR KENT COUNTY.

Philip Greene, Esq., chief; James Arnold, Esq., second;

Benj. Tillinghast, Esq., third; Aaron Bowen, Esq., fourth; Rufus Spencer, Esq., fifth.

SHERIFFS OF THE SEVERAL COUNTIES.

<i>Newport County.</i>	<i>Bristol County.</i>
William Davis, Esq.	Richard Smith, Esq.
<i>Providence County.</i>	<i>Kent County.</i>
Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq.	Richard Fry, Esq.
<i>Washington County.</i>	
Beriah Brown, Esq.	

William Taggart, Esq., intendant of trade for the port of Newport.

Henry Ward, Esq., intendant of trade for the port of Providence.

FIELD OFFICERS FOR THE STATE IN THE SEVERAL COUNTIES.

James M. Varnum, Esq., major general of the whole militia.

Nathan Miller, Esq., brigadier general of militia in the counties of Newport and Bristol.

Christopher Lippitt, Esq., brigadier general of militia in the county of Providence.

Joseph Stanton, Jr., Esq., brigadier general of militia in the county of Washington.

Thomas Holden, Esq., brigadier general of militia in the county of Kent.

Christopher Olney, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the first regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Jesse Maxson, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the first regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Thomas Allen Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the regiment of militia in the county of Bristol.

Job Pierce, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the first regiment of militia in the county of Kent.

Lemuel Bailey, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the second regiment of militia in the county of Newport.

George Peck, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the second regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Charles Dyer, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the second regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Archibald Kasson, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the second regiment of militia in the county of Kent.

Stephen Kimball, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the third regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Thomas Potter, Jr., Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the third regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Stephen Windsor, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the fourth regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

John Whipple, Esq., major of the first regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

John Gavet, Esq., major of the first regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Curtis Cole, Esq., major of the regiment of militia in the county of Bristol.

Job Randall, Esq., major of the first regiment of militia in the county of Kent.

William Southworth, Esq., major of the second regiment of militia in the county of Newport.

Simon Whipple, Esq., major of the second regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Jonathan Bates, Esq., major of the second regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Thomas Gorton, Esq., major of the second regiment of militia in the county of Kent.

George Dorrance, Jr., Esq., major of the third regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

John Clarke, Esq., major of the third regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Samuel Mays, Esq., major of the fourth regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Simeon Thayer, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

George Thurston, Esq., lieutenant colonel commandant of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Reuben Ballou, Esq., major of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Providence.

Thomas Tefft, Esq., major of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Washington.

Robert Carr, Esq., major of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Bristol.

Isaac Johnson, Esq., major of the senior class regiment of militia in the county of Kent.

Archibald Crary, Esq., adjutant general of the whole militia.

Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Esq., quartermaster general of the whole militia.

Charles Holden, Esq., commissary general of the whole militia.

Isaac Senter, Esq., physician, surgeon and purveyor general of the whole militia.

Whereas, from the cessation of hostilities between the United States and the King of Great Britain, a further continuation of the restrictions on the intercourse and communication between the inhabitants on the main and the inhabitants of the town of New Shoreham has become unnecessary ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the acts and resolves of this Assembly, prohibiting trade, correspondence and intercourse between the other inhabitants of this state and the inhabitants of the said town of New Shoreham, be, and they are hereby, repealed.

And it is further voted and resolved, that all the rights, liberties and privileges of the other citizens of this state, be, and they are hereby, restored to the inhabitants of said town; that the freemen of the said town of New Shoreham be, and they are hereby, empowered to choose deputies to represent them in this General Assembly as soon as may be; and that the secretary transmit a copy of this resolution immediately to the town clerk of the said town of New Shoreham, and inform him of the time and place this Assembly is adjourned to.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly, that the house formerly belonging to Joseph Wanton, Esq., in Newport, but now confiscated to and for the use of this state, is very leaky, and unless timely repaired, will be greatly injured;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Benjamin Almy, Esq., the present tenant, be, and he is hereby, permitted to repair the same to an amount not exceeding six pounds, lawful money; that he lay his account for the said repairs before this Assembly, at the next session, and that the same, if allowed, be deducted from this year's rent.

The following return of the officers to command the company of the United Train of Artillery, in the town of Providence, was read in council, and the choice approved, to wit:—

Daniel Tillinghast, colonel; Levi Hall, lieutenant colonel; Robert Taylor, major; Gershom Jones, captain; John Mumford, lieutenant.

The following return of the officers to command the company of Captain-General's Cavaliers, in the county of Providence, was read in council, and the choice approved, to wit:—

Daniel Manton, captain; Caleb Harris, first lieutenant; Richard Eddy, second lieutenant; John King, Jr., cornet; Wm. Waterman, (son of John,) quartermaster.

The following return of the officers to command the com-

pany of Light Infantry in the town of Glocester, was read in council, and the choice approved, to wit:—

Elijah Armstrong, captain; Ezekiel Brown, first lieutenant; Ephraim Brown, second lieutenant; Stephen Cooper, ensign.

Whereas, it appears to this Assembly that the estate late belonging to John Nicoll, Esq., an absentee, which has been confiscated to and for the use of this state, is insufficient to pay the just demands against the same;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said estate be, and the same is hereby, delivered up to the creditors of the said John Nicoll, for their use and benefit.

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the act of this Assembly, made and passed at the session held in March, A. D. 1781, entitled "An act more effectually to prevent illicit trade, commerce and correspondence, with the enemies of this and the other United States of America," and also one other act, made and passed at the session held in August, A. D. 1782, entitled "An act in addition to, and amendment of, an act entitled 'An act more effectually to prevent illicit trade, commerce and correspondence, with the enemies of this and the other United States of America,'" be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Whereas, John Jenckes, Archibald Crary and William Rhodes, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:—

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
relative to the allowances of divers disabled soldiers.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed by the General Assembly a committee to inquire into and report upon the petitions and applications of divers disabled soldiers, who late belonged to this state's Continental battalion, and the battalions raised by this state for the defence thereof, do report, that His Excellency General Washington, on the 15th day of September, A. D. 1782, discharged Comfort Bishop, a soldier in this state's battalion, as unfit for field or garrison duty, he being lame and infirm; that it appears there was due to the said Comfort Bishop, at the time of his discharge, thirty-seven dollars and seventy-ninetieths; and that having examined his unhappy circum-

stances, we are of opinion that the said Comfort Bishop is entitled to receive half pay during life, to commence from the day of his discharge.

It also appears that Francis Robinson, an invalid, is entitled to receive thirty shillings per month, during life, agreeable to a resolution of Congress; and that there is due to him the sum of eleven pounds, five shillings, lawful money, to the 3d day of this instant.

It also appears that Simeon White, an invalid, was discharged by His Excellency General Washington, on the 4th day of January last, and is entitled to receive thirty shillings, lawful money, per month during life; and that there is due to the said Simeon White the sum of six pounds, lawful money, to the 4th day of this instant.

Uriah Stone, formerly a soldier in this state's service, who lost an arm, has received out of the general treasury several sums of money, the last of which he received in May, A. D. 1781, amounting to fifteen pounds, of the Continental new emission, in full compensation for his misfortune. Your committee would recommend to this Assembly to make the said Uriah Stone such further grants as may be thought proper.

Samuel Talman, an invalid, was discharged by His Excellency General Washington on the 5th day of September last; and there is due to the said Samuel Talman twelve pounds, lawful money, to the 1st day of this instant.

Peter Burnes, an invalid, was discharged by His Excellency General Washington, on the 4th day of January last; and there was due to the said Peter Burnes at the time of his discharge, twenty-one pounds, lawful money, to the 31st day of December, A. D. 1781; there is also due to him the sum of twenty-four pounds, five shillings and four pence, lawful money, from the 1st day of January, A. D. 1782, to the 4th day of January, A. D. 1783, per Colonel Olney's certificate; the said Peter Burnes is entitled to receive thirty shillings, lawful money, per month, during life; and there is due to him, for the said allowance, six pounds, lawful money, to the 1st day of this instant.

Richard Sephton, an invalid, was discharged by His Excellency General Washington, the 1st day of September, A. D. 1782, and has due to him the sum of twelve pounds, lawful money, to the 1st day of this instant.

Ezra Chace, an invalid, formerly a soldier in this state's service, in Colonel Elliott's regiment, has received several grants of money from this Assembly, the last of which was in May, A. D. 1782, amounting to fifteen pounds, silver money. Your committee would recommend to this Assembly to make the said Ezra Chace such further grants as may be thought proper.

Benoni Taylor, an invalid, was discharged by His Excellency General Washington, the 4th day of January last, and has due to him the sum of six pounds, lawful money, to the 5th day of this instant.

Anthony Foster, an invalid, was discharged by His Excellency General Washington, the 14th day of December, A. D. 1782, and has due to him the sum of seven pounds, ten shillings, lawful money, to the 15th day of this instant.

Jabez Pratt, an invalid, was discharged by His Excellency General Washington, the 1st day of September, A. D. 1782, and has due to him the sum of twelve pounds, lawful money, to the 2d day of this instant.

Bristol Rhodes, an invalid, was discharged by His Excellency General Washington, the 1st day of September, A. D. 1772, and has due to him the sum of twelve pounds, lawful money, to the 2d day of this instant.

All which is submitted by

JOHN JENCKES,  
ARCHIBALD CRARY,  
WILLIAM RHODES,

Committee.

Newport, May 9, A. D. 1783.

VOL. IX. 88.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that half pay be allowed to the following named persons:—

Francis Robinson, Comfort Bishop, Simeon White, Uriah Stone, Samuel Talman, Peter Burnes, Richard Sephton, Ezra Chace, Benoni Taylor, Anthony Foster, Jabez Pratt, Bristol Rhodes. [For the amounts allowed, and particulars of each, see Schedule.]

It is voted and resolved, that the intendants of trade in state be, and they are hereby, empowered to grant clearances for vessels bound to any British port, or any port in the United States now in possession or under the control of the British fleet, and to admit any vessels cleared from any British Port, or any port in the United States under the control of the British fleet as aforesaid, to enter in their said offices respectively; and that the act of this Assembly, directing bonds to be taken by the said intendants of trade, preventing vessels going to any British or American port under British control, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Whereas, Thomas Rumreill and William Rhodes, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:—

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
to set off confiscated property to divers officers and soldiers.*

The committee appointed by the Honorable the General Assembly, to set off confiscated property to the following persons, on account of the depreciation of their wages, to the amount of five hundred and eighty-nine pounds, nine shillings and ten pence one farthing, lawful money, to wit: to Ensign Ezekiel Cooke, Ensign William Ennis, Samuel Craunton and James Mitchel, sergeants, Toby Coyes, Charles Crosby, James Hayes, Samuel Merrithew, John Targee, Solomon Cezer, John George, Benjamin Wiley, Solomon Rofee and Jehu Pomp, privates, do report that we have set off to the aforesigned persons the lot of land, and house thereon standing, in the town of Newport, late belonging to Linn Martin, in full satisfaction of the aforesaid sum of five hundred and eighty-nine pounds, nine shillings and ten pence one farthing.

All which is submitted by

THOMAS RUMREILL,  
WILLIAM RHODES,  
Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; and that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed and empowered to make and execute, unto the persons aforesigned, a deed of the said house and lot, in fee simple, with warranty.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Nicholas Easton, and Caleb Harris, Rouse J. Helme, Samuel Allen and Archibald Crary, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft an act in amendment of an act, laying certain duties of excise, and that they report thereon to this Assembly at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that George Thomas, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to survey the north end of the Rome farm, so called, in North Kingstown, lately purchased of this state by Mr. John Brown, no survey of that part having been yet made.

It is voted and resolved, that from and after the rising of this Assembly, all committee men appointed by this Assembly shall be allowed nine shillings, lawful money, per day, including all expenses, when the service shall be performed out of the town to which they belong; and that when the service shall be performed in the town to which they do belong, they shall be allowed no more than six shillings per day, including all expenses.

Whereas, William Rhodes and Benjamin Tillinghast, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:—

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly to lease certain confiscated estates, and to sell the stock and farming utensils on the same.*

In obedience to our appointment by the Honorable the General Assembly, at last February session, we proceeded to lease out the several confiscated estates, for the term of one year, within this state; and to sell the stock and farming utensils on the same, at the following prices, to wit:—

	£ s. d.
The Elam farm, in North Kingstown, leased to Charles Dyer, for.....	40 0 0
George Wightman's farm, to Holmes Wightman, for.....	22 0 0
Point Judith farm, to Caleb Gardner and others, for.....	60 0 0
The Hutchinson farm, in Jamestown, to Job Watson, for.....	103 10 0
A lot in Newport, to Henry Wiles, for.....	1 16 0
Part of Gov. Wanton's house, to Benjamin Almy, for.....	30 0 0
John Andrews's house, to John Weeden, for.....	18 0 0
Moses Hart's house and lot, to John Topham, for.....	15 0 0
One lot, late belonging to Thomas Banister, leased to Jonathan Gibbs, for .....	1 10 0
A lot and stable, late belonging to Thomas Banister, leased to Peter Mumford, for .....	5 8 0
One-half of a house and lot, formerly Robert Stoddard's, to Mason & Malbone, for.....	13 10 0
A house and lot of land, late belonging to S. Blowers, to Nicholas Easton, for .....	15 0 0
A house and lot of land, late belonging to John Mawdfley, to William Ellery, for.....	36 0 0
A house and lot of land, late belonging to Joseph Wanton, Jr., to Thomas Rumreill, for.....	15 0 0
Three-quarters of an acre of land, late belonging to Martin Howard, to John Lawton, for.....	2 0 0
One-fourth part of the Aquacut farm; to Thomas Corey, for .....	30 0 0
A farm in Portsmouth, of G. Sanford's, to Giles Lawton and John Allen, for .....	37 10 0
Gervas Elam's farm, in Portsmouth, to John Borden and John Cooke, for .....	67 10 0
A lot in Newport, mortgaged by Job Almy to Isaac Lawton, leased to Peter Mumford, for.....	15 12 0
A right in Dutch Island, late belonging to Joseph and William Wanton, leased to Rouse J. Helme, for.....	0 18 0
	<hr/> £530 4 0
Sales of the stock, &c., on the Rome farm, in North Kingstown .....	115 5 7
Stock on the Moffatt farm.....	38 7 9
	<hr/> £153 13 4

All which is submitted by

WILLIAM RHODES,  
BENJAMIN TILLINGHAST,  
Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; that the said sum of one hundred and fifty-three pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence, being the amount of the sales of the said stock, &c., be paid into the general treasury; and that in the payment of the said sum, the gen-

eral treasurer be empowered and directed to receive in part thereof the orders on the general treasury which the said committee received for part pay of the said stock, &c., by them sold, and also the orders in favor of the said committee, drawn on the treasury, for their services in leasing the said estates, &c.

Whereas, Joktan Putnam preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that at the last term of the superior court of judicature, &c., held in Providence, he was convicted of high crimes and misdemeanors, and sentenced to pay a fine of one hundred pounds, lawful money, and all cost of prosecution, and to remain confined in gaol until the said sentence be performed; that he hath a family to support, which has suffered greatly by his long confinement; that all the interest he is possessed of is attached for debt; and that he is unable to satisfy the said judgment, or any part thereof; and prayed this Assembly to discharge the said judgment, that he may return again to his family, and demean himself as a peaceable citizen; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Joktan Putnam, together with Rufus Harris, George Hunt, Sweeting Tafft and Abraham Tourtellot, who were convicted of the same offences, and at the same term of the superior court, be discharged from gaol, upon condition that the whole of the costs which have accrued for the apprehension, prosecution and conviction of the said Joktan Putnam, Rufus Harris, George Hunt, Sweeting Tafft and Abraham Tourtellot, be first paid, and also whatever may accrue until they shall be legally discharged from gaol; and that thereupon the remaining part of the said sentences against the aforesigned persons respectively, be, and the same is hereby remitted to them.

It is voted and resolved, that the duties enjoined in the act entitled "An act for regulating the light-house," on the naval officer, in this then colony, now state, be performed

by the intendant of trade for the port of Newport, so far as respects the appointment of a keeper of the said light-house.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the duty on all ships and vessels, (except coasters, fishing vessels, wood sloops, and vessels employed in bringing of stones and sand,) be raised to eight pence per ton; that the said duty be continued until there shall be a sufficient sum raised to defray the expense of repairing the said light-house, agreeable to a resolve of this Assembly; that the said duty be paid to the intendant of trade, in whose office the master of such ship or vessel shall enter or clear; and that the said intendants of trade account with this Assembly for the monies by them respectively received, in payment of said duties, whenever they shall be thereunto required.

It is voted and resolved, that Caleb Gardner, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to repair the light-house on Beaver Tail; that he be empowered to borrow a sufficient sum of money to enable him to complete the said repairs, on an interest of six per cent. per annum; and that the light-money which shall be received by the intendants of trade shall be appropriated to the payment of the monies borrowed as aforesaid.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the said Caleb Gardner he, and he is hereby, appointed and empowered to lay out a drive-way to the said light-house, which shall be free to all persons with horses or carriages, passing to and from the said light-house.

Whereas, Nicholas Spink and John Underwood, two persons formerly inhabitants of the town of North Kingstown, went over to and joined the enemy, thereby forfeiting the protection of this Assembly, and have lately returned to this state without license;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Kent be, and he is hereby, directed to convey the

said Nicholas Spink and John Underwood on board the first vessel which shall sail for New York or Long Island.

It is further voted and resolved, that neither of the intendants of trade shall clear out any vessel for New York or Long Island, until the master of such vessel shall give bond in the penal sum of thirty pounds that he will take on board such vessel the said Nicholas Spink and John Underwood, and land them on Long Island, if the said persons shall be put on board such vessel.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if the said Nicholas Spink or John Underwood shall return within this state again, without license from this Assembly first had and obtained, they shall be liable to and suffer the penalties prescribed by an act of this Assembly for preventing absentees and those who have joined the enemies of this state from returning again.

It is voted and resolved, that the draft of a letter reported to this Assembly, to the delegates of this state in Congress,\* directing them to move for a repeal of the resolve allowing the officers of the army five years' pay, be, and the same is hereby, approved; and that His Excellency the

*Governor Greene to the Delegates in Congress.*

State of Rhode Island, &c., May 10th, 1783.

Gentlemen:—You will recollect your instructions from the Legislature of this state, to oppose the allowance of half pay to the officers of the army, and I doubt not your exertions therein have been directed by your zeal to the public good and the wishes of your constituents.

I am now requested by the General Assembly to signify their pleasure that you make up all the measures in your power to obtain a repeal of the late resolution of Congress, for allowing the amount of five years' whole pay to the said officers in compensation for the half pay. The leading inducements to this determination are, that the articles of confederation make no provision for appropriations of money to such purposes, and therefore the resolution cannot be effectual without the acquiescence of the respective Legislatures. The General Assembly of this state cannot comply with a requisition of this kind, because the measure tends to a military establishment in time of peace; is unequal in its application, as no regard is had to time of service: is unjust in its operation, as the states who have raised the greatest proportionate number of soldiers with the smallest number of officers, will be the greatest sufferers; and because the sum to be paid will amount to much more than the purchase intended.

This state will be ever ready to do ample justice to their officers, when application shall be made for that purpose, to the utmost of their abilities, provided their claims are founded in equity.

I am, Gentlemen, with esteem, &c.,

WILLIAM GREENE.

To the Delegates in Congress.

Governor be requested to transmit a fair copy thereof to said delegates as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., Welcome Arnold and Joseph Brown, Esqs., and Mr. John Brown and Mr. Paul Allen, be, and they, or the major part of them, are hereby, appointed a committee to write an answer to the letter of His Excellency General Washington, of the 14th of April last, and to answer the several queries of the paymaster general, stated in writing, and enclosed in His Excellency's letter, relative to the settlement of the accounts for the depreciation of the wages of the officers in the service of the United States, belonging to this state; and that they deliver to His Excellency the Governor the said drafts, who is hereby requested to transmit the same to His Excellency General Washington as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing, Thomas G. Hazard and Christopher Ellery, Esqs., be, and they, or either two of them, are hereby, appointed a committee to complete the adjustment of the claims against the estates of the absentees, and that they report thereon as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that the following gentlemen be, and they are hereby, appointed collectors of excise in the several counties, to wit:

Robert Crooke, Esq., for the county of Newport; Silas Talbot, Esq., for the county of Providence; Jonathan J. Hazard, Esq., for the county of Washington; John Usher, Esq., for the county of Bristol; Stephen Mumford, Esq., for the county of Kent.

Whereas, from the great scarcity of circulating cash, the collectors of taxes in many towns have not been able to collect the arrears due on several taxes which have been assessed against them;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said collectors be, and they are hereby, allowed until the next session of this Assembly for the collecting and paying into the general

treasury the said taxes in arrear; and that the interest of twelve per cent. be collected and paid in the same manner as was ordered by the act passed at the last session.

It is voted and resolved, that William Ellery and David Howell, Esqs., be requested to proceed to Philadelphia, to take their seats in Congress, as delegates of this state; that they each be empowered to draw the sum of two hundred dollars out of the general treasury, for defraying their expenses, and that they be accountable for the same.

It is further voted and resolved, that the general treasurer transmit to Jonathan Arnold and John Collins, Esqs., each two hundred dollars, for defraying their expenses, and that they be accountable for the same.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Joseph Button, a wounded soldier .....	7 0 0
George Lawton, in full for his half pay .....	6 0 0
Job Greenman, in full for half pay .....	7 0 0
Caleb Harris, for surveying the Rome farm .....	4 10 0
William Rhodes, for same service .....	8 5 0
Benjamin Tillinghast, for services and expenses in leasing confiscated estates .....	7 1 0
Joseph Bucklin, of Providence, for an enlisted slave .....	35 12 10

It is voted and resolved, that all business lying before this Assembly unfinished, be, and the same is hereby, referred to the next session; that the secretary publish the acts and orders now made and passed by beat of drum, in the town of Providence, within ten days after the rising of this Assembly, and within thirty, send copies thereof to the sheriffs of the several counties in the state, by them to be transmitted to each town clerk in their respective counties; and that this Assembly be, and hereby is, adjourned to the fourth Monday of June next, then to meet at Newport.

God save the United States of America.

*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at Newport, on the fourth Monday in June, 1783.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.  
The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that William Bradford, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to sell all the barracks on the farm belonging to Mr. John Brown, at Bristol; that Mr. James Arnold, Jr., be empowered to sell the barracks at Pawtucket; and that the sheriff of the county of Newport be empowered to sell all the public barracks in that county, and also a large gate erected by the British near Samuel Dyre's, Esq., in Newport, at public vendue; and that they pay the amount of the sales into the general treasury; provided, nevertheless, and it is further voted and resolved, that the barrack in Jamestown, which was built by the British troops, out of materials taken from the houses of the inhabitants of the said island, be not sold; but that the town of Jamestown be, and is hereby, empowered to dispose of the same among the proprietors of the materials which were taken to build the same.

Whereas, from the insular situation of the town of New Shoreham, it will often be impracticable for the deputies of the said town, who reside therein, to attend this Assembly; and whereas, the freemen of the said town, influenced by the aforesaid consideration, have made choice of Ray Sands, Esq., an inhabitant of the town of South Kingstown, who is seized of a freehold estate in the said town of New Shoreham, to represent them in General Assembly;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the choice of the said Ray Sands as aforesaid, be, and the same is hereby, ap-

proved; and that the freemen of the said town of New Shoreham be, and they are hereby, empowered to choose any person, being a freeman of any town in the state, who is seized in his own right of a freehold estate in the said town of New Shoreham, to represent them in General Assembly, any law, custom or usage to the contrary notwithstanding; provided, nevertheless, that such person so elected be not allowed to act or vote as a freeman of the town of his residence during the term he shall represent the said town of New Shoreham as a deputy; and that this resolution shall not be brought into precedent by any other town in this state.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Paul Allen and William Rhodes, Esq., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the deficiencies of the several towns and individuals, in furnishing beef for the army, agreeably to a resolution of this Assembly, heretofore passed, and what sums of money (if any) are due for beef supplied; and that they make report to this Assembly as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that the colonels of militia in the several counties be, and they are hereby, directed to make a return of all the cannon and ordnance stores in the several counties, belonging to this state, to the next session of this Assembly; and that Col. John Topham be requested to make a return of the cannon, &c., in the county of Newport.

It is voted and resolved, that William Channing, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to sell, at public vendue, at seven o'clock on Saturday morning next, being the 28th instant, the Connecticut stones on the estate in Middletown, late George Rome's, now belonging to this state; that the said stones be sold for cash, or any kind of state securities; that the sale be on the said estate; that the sheriff of the county of Newport be directed to give public notice in the town of Newport thereof; and that the said William

Channing pay the amount of the sales into the general treasury.

A certificate given unto Constant Taber, Esq., for one hundred and twenty pounds, Continental money, in August, A. D. 1778, for a slave who enlisted into this state's Continental battalions, being exhibited unto this Assembly, and the report of the auditor thereon being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be accepted; and that the amount of the said note, as consolidated, with the interest thereon, being thirty-four pounds, eight shillings and eleven pence half-penny, lawful money, be paid by the general treasurer, out of the next state tax, to the said Constant Taber.

A note given by the general treasurer unto Mr. Gideon Brown, for one hundred and twenty pounds, Continental money, in March, A. D. 1778, for a slave who enlisted into this state's Continental battalions, being exhibited unto this Assembly, and the report of the auditor thereon being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said report be accepted; and that the sum of forty pounds, fourteen shillings and eleven pence one farthing, lawful money, reported to be due upon the said note, be paid by the general treasurer, out of the next state tax, to the said Gideon Brown.

It is voted and resolved, that the intendants of trade within this state be, and they are hereby, directed and empowered to receive from the masters of all ships and vessels that shall clear out at their offices, for any port without the United States of America, the sum of eight pence, lawful money, per ton, for every ton according to the register of the vessel; and four pence, lawful money, per ton, for every vessel that shall clear out at their said offices, for any port within the said United States; excepting fishing vessels, wood sloops, and vessels employed in bringing stones and sand, which are hereby exempted; that the said duty be

continued until a sufficient sum of money be raised thereby to defray the expense of repairing the light-house in Jamestown; after which, the said intendants are hereby directed to receive only one-half the duties now ordered to be taken for light-money; that the said intendants be allowed for their services five per cent. out of the revenue arising from the light-money; and that they account to this Assembly for the monies by them respectively received in payment of the said duties.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the act which passed at the last session of this Assembly, directing the intendants of trade to receive light-money, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

It is voted and resolved, that Archibald Crary, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to sell, at public vendue, the buildings standing on the land of Richard Fry, Esq., belonging to this state, at East Greenwich; that Nathaniel Shepardson, Esq., be, and he is hereby, empowered to sell, at public vendue, the buildings, with the appurtenances, in Cumberland, belonging to this state; that they pay the amount of the sales thereof into the general treasury, and that they make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. William Anthony, Jr., be, and he is hereby, empowered to sell, at public vendue, the gates, timber, &c., on Butts's Hill, in Portsmouth, belonging to this state; that he pay the amount of the sales thereof into the general treasury, and that he make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

Whereas, the sheriff of the county of Newport hath represented unto this Assembly that he now hath in his custody one William Young, who was heretofore banished from this state, having been charged with a treasonable correspondence with the enemy;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said sheriff be, and he is hereby, directed to send the said William Young

to New York or Halifax, by the first vessel; and that he, the said William Young, be, and hereby is, forbid returning to this state again on his peril.

Whereas, Messrs. Samuel Fowler, Caleb Gardner and Constant Taber, a committee from the church and congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. Gardner Thurston, in the town of Newport, preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that the meeting-house belonging to the said society having been improved as a hospital by the British, and afterwards by the French army, stationed in the said town, is so much injured thereby as not to admit of being repaired, but to the disadvantage of the said society; that they are desirous of building a new meeting-house, but find themselves unequal to the undertaking, as they have suffered greatly in their property during the late war; and therefore they prayed this Assembly to grant a lottery for raising the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars, agreeably to the scheme with the said petition presented, to be appropriated to the building of a meeting-house, for the use of the said society; and that Samuel Fowler, Constant Taber, Daniel Rogers and Joseph Rogers, may be appointed managers thereof; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted; that the said Samuel Fowler, Constant Taber, Daniel Rogers and Joseph Rogers, be, and they are hereby, appointed managers of the said lottery, they first giving bond for the faithful performance of their trust; and that no expense accrue to the state.

Whereas, the freemen of the town of Newport, in town meeting assembled, preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that for accommodating the public, and for the convenience of the inhabitants of the said town, they are desirous of having the lots on the south side of the Parade, from the Rome lot, (so called,) extending eastward to the shop improved by Mr. John Easton, appropriated to the use of the public, agreeably to the plan to the said peti-

tion annexed ; and that the said town being greatly in debt, and having suffered much during the late war, is unable to purchase the said lots, and therefore they prayed this Assembly for a grant of the said Rome lot, which has been confiscated to and for the use of this state ; that, to enable them to purchase the other lots, and to defray the expenses of levelling and enclosing the same, a lottery may be granted them, for raising the sum of two thousand dollars ; and that Messrs. Francis Malbone, George Gibbs, John Malbone, George Champlin, Daniel Mason, Joseph Tweedy, Samuel Vernon, the 3d, Jacob Richardson, Oliver Durfee, Billings Coggeshall, Henry Dayton, John Handy and John L. Boss, be appointed managers of the said lottery, and empowered to agree upon a scheme for the same ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted ; that the general treasurer be empowered and directed to make and execute unto the town of Newport a deed of the said lot of land, late the property of George Rome, with warranty, for the use of the public ; provided, that no deed be given until the said town of Newport shall purchase the other lots, and appropriate them to the use of the public ; and provided, also, that the said town shall never erect, or cause to be erected thereon, any building whatever.

It is further voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Newport be, and he is hereby, empowered to sell, at public vendue, the house at present standing on the said Rome lot, to be removed therefrom at the expense of the purchaser ; and that Thomas Rumreill, Esq., be permitted, previous to the sale thereof, to take such windows from the said house as he may want for the house he now hires of the state.

And it is further voted and resolved, that a lottery be granted to the said town of Newport, for raising the sum of two thousand dollars, for the purpose mentioned in the

aforesaid petition; that the said Francis Malbone, George Gibbs, John Malbone, George Champlin, Daniel Mason, Joseph Tweedy, Samuel Vernon, the 3d, Jacob Richardson, Oliver Durfee, Billings Coggeshall, Henry Dayton, John Handy and John L. Boss, be, and they are hereby, appointed managers of the said lottery, they first giving bond for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them; and that no expense accrue to the state.

It is voted and resolved, that William Richmond, Daniel Mowry, Rouse J. Helme, Nathan Miller and Thomas Holden, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to take an estimate of the ratable estates in the several towns which were omitted in the last general estimate, by reason of their being then in the possession of the British troops; that the said estimate be taken on the same principles as the said last estimate was, and that they make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

The petition of William Brenton, an absentee, lately arrived at Newport from New York, for the purpose of removing his family to Halifax, preferred unto this Assembly, requesting liberty to be on shore and visit his friends while there, being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said William Brenton have permission to come on shore for the aforesaid purposes; that his stay on shore be only one week from this day, at the expiration of which time the sheriff of the county of Newport is hereby directed to cause the said William Brenton to depart for New York, and that he do not return again to this state.

Whereas, divers inhabitants of the towns of Smithfield and Cumberland preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that the great bridge built over Pawtucket river, between the said towns of Smithfield and Cumberland, called Whipple's bridge, is so decayed and out of repair that it is dangerous to pass over the same with any kind of carriages; and that the said bridge is much used, and of great

advantage to the public; and therefore they prayed this Assembly to grant them a lottery, to raise the sum of one hundred and eighty pounds, lawful money, in one or more classes, as shall be thought best by the managers, to repair the said bridge; and that Messrs. Simon Whipple and Elisha Waterman, of Cumberland, and Jeremiah Scott, of Smithfield, may be appointed managers of the said lottery; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted; that the said Simon Whipple, Elisha Waterman and Jeremiah Scott be, and they are hereby, appointed managers of said lottery; that they give bonds for the faithful discharge of their trust, and that no expense accrue to the state.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of Mrs. Mary Wing, late of Newport, but now of Dartmouth, in the commonwealth of Massachusetts, representing that she had a small house standing on Easton's Point, in said Newport, which in the course of the late war was destroyed, and praying this Assembly to make her compensation therefor, be, and hereby is, referred to the next session; and that John Topham and William Taggart, Esqs., and Mr. Robert Stevens, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the facts set forth therein, and that they report thereon.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of Mr. James Chace, praying that compensation may be made him for stock driven from Rhode Island in December, A. D. 1776, be referred to the next session; that Mr. Robert Stevens, William Taggart, Esq., and John Topham, Esq., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to examine the facts set forth therein, and that they make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

Whereas, Esek Hopkins and John Jenckes, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
relative to the North End Farm on Conanicut.*

We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee to inquire into the facts set forth in a petition preferred to this Assembly by Mr. Shrimpton Hutchinson, do report that we find that on the 6th day of February, A. D. 1752, the said Shrimpton Hutchinson and Elizabeth, his wife, were seized in fee simple of the farm in Jamestown, called the North farm; that on the same day, they, for securing the payment of the sum of one thousand pounds, sterling money of Great Britain, mortgaged the same unto Charles Apthorp, Esq., of Boston, payable in August following; that the possession of the same farm was delivered unto the said Charles Apthorp, in order to receive the rents towards the discharge of the said mortgage; that the said farm rented for one hundred pounds, lawful money, per annum; that the said Charles Apthorp dying intestate, his widow, Grizel Apthorp, and Charles Ward Apthorp, son to the said intestate, administered upon the said estate; that the said Charles Apthorp, deceased, left a large number of children and grand-children, who were entitled to a distribution of his estate. We find that the said Charles Ward Apthorp received the rents of the said farm until the year 1779; and since the evacuation of Rhode Island by the British troops, this state hath rented the same. We are of opinion that the said farm is the property and the undoubted right of the heirs of the said Elizabeth Hutchinson, deceased, subject to its being held by the said Shrimpton Hutchinson, as tenant by the courtesy, and liable for the payment of the balance due upon the said mortgage to the heirs of the said Charles Apthorp, deceased, it appearing that the said Charles Ward Apthorp has received all the rents for said farm from the decease of his father until the year 1779; that the state, in right of Charles Ward Apthorp, can have no claim thereto, he having received more than his proportion of the monies due thereon; and we are of opinion that the same estate ought in right to be delivered up to the said Shrimpton Hutchinson, subject to the payment of the balance due to the estate of the said Charles Apthorp, deceased.

All which is submitted by

ESEK HOPKINS,  
JOHN JENCKES,  
Committee.

Newport, June 27, A. D. 1783.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; that the said estate be delivered up to the said Shrimpton Hutchinson, and that the present tenant upon the said estate account unto and pay the said Shrimpton Hutchinson the rent reserved for said estate.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition preferred by a number of the inhabitants of the town of Newport, praying that John Mawdfley, Esq., and Mr. Stephen Deblois, may be permitted to return into this state, and that they be, and hereby are, permitted to come into this state, five days next preceding the sitting of this Assembly, at the next session,

in order to have a trial on the merits of their application to be restored to the rights of citizenship.

Whereas, William Taggart, Charles Keen and Daniel Holloway, Esqs., who were appointed a committee to inquire into the money due unto John Watson, (an absentee, whose estate was confiscated,) upon a certain mortgage given by Isaac Godfrey unto the said John Watson, (the said Isaac Godfrey having sold his right in the said estate unto Messrs. Robert Stevens and Henry Stevenson,) did report, at February session, A. D. 1782, that the sum of one thousand and fifty dollars, in specie, was due upon the said mortgage unto the said John Watson ; and thereupon this Assembly did resolve, "that if the said Robert Stevens and Henry Stevenson, or either of them, should pay into the general treasury of this state, on or before the 25th day of March next, the sum of one thousand and fifty silver dollars, the right, title, interest, property and claim, which the state holds in the said premises, which is all the right, title, interest, property and claim which John Watson, late of said Newport, had in and unto the said estate, (and which hath been confiscated to and for the use of this state,) be assigned and transferred unto the said Robert Stevens and Henry Stevenson, and this state will, and do thereupon, relinquish all claim thereto." And the said Robert Stevens and Henry Stevenson having produced unto this Assembly receipts from the general treasurer for the whole amount of the said one thousand and fifty dollars, by them paid into the general treasury,—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to give unto the said Robert Stevens and Henry Stevenson a deed of the premises aforesaid, conveying unto them, their heirs and assigns, all the right, title, interest and claim which this state had in the premises; and also all the right, title, interest and claim which the said John Watson had in the premises aforesaid, at and just before the time the said estate was forfeited by

the said John Watson unto this state, and the same was confiscated to and for the use of this state, with warranty from this state against themselves and the said John Watson, his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Benjamin Howland and Lemuel Bailey, Esq., be, and they are hereby, appointed and empowered to sell, at public vendue, all the public buildings, the bake-house, oven, flag-staff, spars, platforms and beacon-pole, in Tiverton, belonging to this state; that they pay the amount of the sales into the general treasury, and that they make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

An Act for granting and apportioning a tax of twenty thousand pounds, in silver or gold, upon the inhabitants of this state.

[For this act at length, see printed schedule.]

Whereas, the Most Honorable the Continental Congress, on the 4th day of September, A. D. 1782, did resolve in the words following, to wit:

By the United States in Congress assembled.

September 4, 1782.

Resolved, that one million two hundred thousand dollars be quotaed on the states, as absolutely and immediately necessary for payment of the interest of the public debt, and that it be recommended to the Legislatures of the respective states to lay such taxes as shall appear to them most proper and effectual for raising their quotas of the above sum.

Resolved, that the money so raised in each state shall be applied towards paying the interest due on certificates issued from the loan office of such state, and other liquidated debts of the United States contracted therein, before any part thereof shall be paid into the public treasury.

And whereas, this state's quota of the said sum of one million two hundred thousand dollars, agreeable to the apportionment thereof to the several states in Congress, is twenty-eight thousand eight hundred dollars;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sum of eight thousand six hundred and forty pounds, (being equivalent to the said sum of twenty-eight thousand eight hundred dol-

lars,) being part of the said tax of twenty thousand pounds, be appropriated to the payment of the interest on the loan office certificates, and other liquidated debts of the United States, agreeable to the aforerecited resolve of Congress.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. John Sands be, and he is hereby, appointed to take into his possession the estate on Block Island late belonging to Ackurs Sisson, but now confiscated to and for the use of this state, and to prevent any trespasses being committed thereon; and that he account with this state for the improvement thereof.

It is also voted and resolved, that the secretary be, and he is hereby, directed to send to the town of New Shoreham copies of the acts and orders of this Assembly, which have been passed since the interruption of an intercourse between the inhabitants of the said town and the main; and that in future he send copies of the acts and orders of this Assembly to the said town, as was done before the commencement of the late war.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. Robert Stevens be, and he is hereby, appointed one of the committee for completing the adjustment of the accounts against the estates of the absentees, in the room of Thomas G. Hazard, Esq., who declines.

It is voted and resolved, that Rouse J. Helme and William Channing, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft an act for the settlement of public accounts; and that they make report at the next session of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that a resolution of this Assembly, made and passed at last February session, directing the general treasurer not to pay any more money to Mr. George Olney, receiver of the Continental taxes in this state, until he shall consent to receive the certificates which have been issued for clothing for the use of the United States, &c., be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Whereas, Messrs. John Howland and Edward Carr, in behalf of the inhabitants of the town of Jamestown, preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that they are in an exposed situation, and are desirous of having the small pox introduced into said town by inoculation, and prayed this Assembly to grant them permission therefor, under the direction of the town council, or of a committee of the said town; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted, under the direction of the town council, or of a committee to be appointed by the said town of Jamestown; provided, that the hospital for that purpose be not erected within a mile of either of the ferries or roads on the said island.

It is voted and resolved, that the act passed at the session held in February last, entitled "An act laying certain duties of excise upon certain articles therein enumerated, for the purpose of paying the annual interest arising upon the public securities of this state, or for raising a revenue for the support of government," be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the several collectors of excise be directed to lay before this Assembly, at the next session, an account of the monies they have received, the bonds they have taken, and the expenses which have been incurred, in their respective offices.

It is voted and resolved, that James M. Varnum and David Howell, Esqs., and the secretary, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft a letter in answer to the valedictory letter of His Excellency General Washington to the Governor, dated June 18, A. D. 1783; likewise, to draft a letter to the President of Congress, in answer to those lately received from him; that His Excellency the Governor be requested to cause fair copies of the said letters to be made, and sign and transmit the same as soon as may be.

An Act laying an impost of two per centum, ad valorem, upon certain articles herein mentioned, for the purpose of paying the annual interest arising upon the public securities of this state.

[For this act at length, see printed schedule.]

It is voted and resolved, that His Honor the Deputy Governor be, and he is hereby, requested to make out an account of the amount of the certificates which are now lodged in the office of the receiver of Continental taxes, for clothing furnished by this state for the United States, and transmit the same, together with an account of the expense of transportation, to the superintendent of finance, for settlement.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to issue his executions within two months from and after the rising of this Assembly, returnable in fifteen days, against the town treasurers of the respective towns which shall be delinquent at that time in paying their respective proportions of the taxes which have been heretofore assessed against them, for the several sums in which they shall be delinquent, together with an interest of twelve per cent. upon the same.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the collectors of taxes in the several towns which shall be delinquent at the time aforesaid, be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to collect from the individuals who shall be delinquent in the payment of the respective taxes assessed against them, together with the taxes and interest thereon of twelve per cent., all costs and expenses which shall accrue in consequence of the executions which shall be issued by the general treasurer against the treasurers of the said towns, for the non-payment of the said taxes; and that the costs and expenses which shall be collected as aforesaid, be in proportion to the sums which shall be due from the individual delinquents respectively.

Whereas, William Channing and James M. Varnum, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit :

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly relative to the petition of Mr. Andrew Spooner.*

The subscribers, being appointed a committee to inquire into the facts set forth in the petition of Mr. Andrew Spooner, do report that we have examined the last will and testament of Andrew Oliver, deceased, grand-father to the said Andrew Spooner, and find by the said will, that the testator, being seized in fee simple of the Aquacut farm, lying in Tiverton, with its appurtenances, devised the one-eighth part thereof to the said Andrew Spooner, for and during his natural life, with a fee simple expectant upon his arriving to the age of twenty-one years ; that the said last will and testament was duly proved in the year 1774; that the said Andrew Spooner is still a minor ; that he went to Great Britain in the year 1775, by authority and under the direction of his guardian ; and that he returned from thence in the year 1782, and now resides in the commonwealth of Massachusetts. It is our opinion that the petitioner hath not committed any act by which he hath legally forfeited his right in said estate, and therefore that he be admitted into the possession of the one-eighth part of the said farm, with the appurtenances, to hold the same as tenant for life, till the fee expectant be determined. He is also entitled to the one-eighth of the rents and profits already received by the state, the amount of which we cannot now ascertain.

WILLIAM CHANNING,  
JAMES M. VARNUM,  
Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted ; that the said Andrew Spooner be put into possession of the said one-eighth part of the said estate, being a moiety of the one-fourth part of the said estate which remains unsold ; and that he be entitled to receive a moiety of the rent of the said one-fourth part, for the present year, of the tenant thereof.

*An Act to Prevent Melon Stealing.*

Whereas, divers persons have wilfully, wickedly and wantonly, entered into the fields and gardens of many of the inhabitants of this state, and have plucked and carried off the melons growing in the same, to the great damage of the proprietors ; and whereas, by the common law, the offence of taking and destroying anything annexed to the freehold is only trespass, which does not sufficiently deter evil-minded persons from such wanton destruction ;—

It is therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that if any person or persons shall wickedly and wantonly enter into

any field, garden or patch of melons, and shall take and carry away any melons, without the consent of the proprietor or proprietors of the same, he, she or they, who shall be lawfully convicted thereof, before two or more justices of the peace in the county where the offence is committed, shall be adjudged guilty of theft, and shall suffer the same penalties, fines and forfeitures, as in other cases of larceny; any law, custom or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

It is voted and resolved, that Welcome Arnold and Henry Sherburne, Esqs., and Mr. John Brown, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft a new form of registers for vessels; and that they report the same to the intendants of trade, who are hereby directed to use the said form in future.

Both houses being joined in a grand committee, chose the following officers, to wit:

William Hammond, Esq., sixth assistant, in the room of Sylvester Gardner, Esq., who declined. Engaged.

John Usher, Esq., second justice of the inferior court of common pleas, and general sessions of the peace, within and for the county of Bristol.

Collectors of impost in the several counties, to wit:—Mr. Robert Crooke, for the county of Newport; Benjamin Bourne, Esq., for the county of Providence; Geo. Thomas, Esq., (son of Samuel,) for the county of Washington; William Barton, Esq., for the county of Bristol; Mr. Stephen Mumford, for the county of Kent.

It is voted and resolved, that John Jenckes, Esq., and Mr. Paul Allen, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into and ascertain the amount of the debt of this state, including the bounties given for enlisting soldiers; and that they make report to this Assembly, at the next session.

It is voted and resolved, that on all judgments which may hereafter be obtained against any town treasurer in this state, on any notes or other securities given by him in his said capacity, execution shall issue against the town treasurer for the time being.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz. :

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Samuel Aborn, for the use of his sloop as a flag from Providence to New York, in January, 1782.....	66 0 0
Thomas Potter, Jr., services and expenses in apprehending refugees.....	8 0 0
Iehabod Potter, for improvements made by him on the Bannister farm....	73 0 0
Abijah Adams, in full for half pay due him.....	15 0 0
Thomas Jenkins, for deficiency of pay for hire of schooner Lydia, to carry prisoners to Virginia, in 1781.....	30 0 0
Ephraim Gardner, for carrying orders to militia officers.....	4 10 0
Sylvester Gardner, for a boat lost in the service of the state.....	6 0 0
Jeremiah Ingraham, for an enlisted slave.....	43 9 4
Mrs. Mary Mason, for cannon ball furnished the state in October, 1775....	108 0 0
Samuel Fowler, for timber, blankets, &c., furnished the army in 1776.....	10 7 10
Wm. Parker, a disabled soldier, in full for his pension.....	6 0 0
John Roberts, late a soldier, to be paid to his widow.....	8 13 8
James Tew, for wood supplied prisoners of war.. ..	27 7 0
Thomas Price, for wages due him while a soldier.....	6 0 0
Wm. Clarke, for wages due while a soldier in 1775 and 1776.....	18 0 0
John Handy, for his services as auditor of accounts at this session.....	3 12 0

It is voted and resolved, that all business lying before this Assembly unfinished, be, and the same is hereby, referred to the next session; and that this Assembly be, and hereby is, adjourned unto the last Monday in October next, then to convene at the state-house in South Kingstown; but if not called before nor at that time, that then this Assembly be, and hereby is, dissolved.

God save the United States of America.

*Elias Boudinot to Governor Greene.*

[Circular.]

Philadelphia, 10th June, 1783.

Sir:—The states of New York and Maryland having made separate propositions to Congress, on the subject of their permanent residence in one of those states, I have the honor to enclose copies thereof for the information of your state; and am instructed by Congress to inform your Excellency that the first Monday in October next is assigned for the determination on those propositions, when it is expected that each state will be careful to have a full representation in Congress.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

ELIAS BOUDINOT.

To His Excellency the Governor of Rhode Island.

*Elias Boudinot to Governor Greene.*

Princeton, 22d July, 1783.

Sir:—Since my letter of the 10th ult., enclosing the propositions of the states of New York and Maryland, to induce Congress to fix their permanent residence in one of those states, propositions from the states of New Jersey and Virginia for a like purpose have been received, copies of which I do myself the honor of enclosing, for the information of your Excellency; and beg leave to remind you that the period assigned by Congress for the determination on this subject, is the first Monday in October next.

I have the honor to be, with sentiments of high respect,

Your Excellency's obedient and very humble servant,

ELIAS BOUDINOT.

To His Excellency the Governor of Rhode Island.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at South Kingstown, on the fourth Monday in October, 1783.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

It is voted and resolved, that Colonel Jeremiah Olney be, and he is hereby, appointed to inquire into the amount of the arrears due to the invalids belonging to this state, who have been discharged for disability; and that he report thereon to this Assembly, at the present session.

It is voted and resolved, that John Handy, Esq., be, and he hereby is, appointed auditor of accounts for this state.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., John Jenckes, Esq., and Mr. Israel Bowen, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft an act, and lay the same before this Assembly as soon as may be, for regulating and inspecting the tobacco which is of the growth of this state.

Whereas, Mr. Ichabod Northup, a soldier in this state's Continental battalion, who was captured at the time Colonel Christopher Greene was massacred, and hath been kept by the enemy till very lately, whereby the account for the wages due to the said Ichabod Northup hath not been settled;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Colonel Jeremiah Olney inquire into the circumstances of the said Ichabod Northup's captivity, and report the same to this Assembly.

Whereas, William Taggart and John Topham, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit :

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
relative to the petition of Mrs. Mary Wing.*

The subscribers, being appointed by the General Assembly a committee to ascertain the value of a dwelling house in Newport, belonging to Mrs. Mary Wing, widow of Mr. John Wing, late of said Newport, deceased, that was enclosed in the north battery, and afterwards destroyed by the British troops, do report that it is our opinion the said house was worth thirty pounds, lawful money, which sum the said Mary Wing ought to be paid.

All which is submitted by

WILLIAM TAGGART,  
JOHN TOPHAM,

Newport, October 6th, A. D. 1783.

Committee.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted ; that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, directed to give his promissory note to the said Mary Wing, for the sum of thirty pounds, lawful money, payable on demand, with interest.

Whereas, the Sieur Philip Joseph de L'Tombe consul general of France in the states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, and Connecticut, having laid before this Assembly his commission, and an ordinance of Congress recognizing him as consul general as aforesaid, and calling upon the said states to furnish the said Philip Joseph de L'Tombe with their exequatur or notification of his quality, and to cause the same to be published ; and whereas, Monsieur Joseph Marie Solomon Toscan having laid before this Assembly his commission of vice consul of France to the said states, and an ordinance of Congress, calling upon the said states to furnish vice consuls with an exequatur, in like form with the exequatur delivered to a consul, *mutatis mutandis*, and that the same be published ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that an exequatur be furnished the said Philip Joseph de L'Tombe, to be signed by His Excellency the Governor, in the form following, to wit:—

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

By His Excellency William Greene, Esq., Governor, Captain-General and Commander-in-chief of and over the state aforesaid.

It having been made to appear to this Assembly that the Sieur Philip Joseph de L'Tombe hath been duly commissioned consul general of France, in the states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations and Connecticut, and that the United States in Congress assembled have acknowledged him, the said Philip Joseph de L'Tombe, consul general as aforesaid, and caused his commission to be registered,—

I do, therefore, by these presents, make known to all concerned, that the privileges, pre-eminence and authority, legally belonging to the character and quality of consul general as aforesaid, are due to him, the said Philip Joseph de L'Tombe, within the jurisdiction of this state, and that his commission, by order of this Assembly, is registered in the secretary's office.

Given under my hand and the seal of the said state, this twenty-ninth day  
of October, and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and  
eighty-three, and in the eighth year of our independence.

It is further voted and resolved, that an exequatur in like form, *mutatis mutandis*, be furnished the said Joseph Marie Solomon Tosecan, vice consul of France to the said states, and that the same be signed by His Excellency the Governor.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the said commissions be registered in the secretary's office of this state; that he certify the same on the back of said commissions, and that he cause the said exequaturs to be published in the Newport and Providence newspapers.

Whereas, divers inhabitants of the towns of North Kingstown and South Kingstown preferred a petition unto this Assembly, representing that they are obliged to go with loaded carts to the landing-place called Updike's Newtown, and also to Bissell's Mill; and that the road is a great distance round, and very bad, with a high hill to ascend; and thereupon prayed that a committee may be appointed to lay a drift-way through the following estates, to wit: Beginning at Mr. Henry Gardner's house, and thence northward through the said Henry Gardner's land to Mr. Nathan Gard-

ner's land, and through the said Nathan Gardner's land to Mr. Robert Northup's land, and through the said Robert Northup's land to Mr. Gideon Hazard's land, and so through to the public road near the church, as it will shorten the way two miles, or thereabouts, from Mr. William Taylor's mill to the said landing-place; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. William Tefft and Oliver Davis be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the propriety and expediency of laying open the said road; that if it shall appear to the said committee expedient and proper, they report to this Assembly, at the next session, how the said road ought to run; and that no expense accrue hereon to the state.

Whereas, Mr. Peter Turner, of East Greenwich, in the county of Kent, preferred a petition unto this Assembly, representing that he hath been importuned by many respectable inhabitants of the said county and its vicinity, to enter into and carry on the business of inoculation for the small pox; and that a regard for the principles of humanity as well as his own emolument, has induced him to accede to their solicitations, as he can be accommodated with hospitals sufficiently distant from public roads, and attended with every advantage that patients can desire; and thereupon prayed this Assembly to grant him the liberty of carrying on the aforesaid business in the said county, under the direction of the town councils of such towns in which the said hospitals may be opened, and under such other restrictions as this Assembly shall think necessary; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said Peter Turner be, and he is hereby, permitted to set up and establish a hospital for the purpose of inoculating for the small pox, in either of the towns of East Greenwich or Warwick, provided that the place in which the said hospital may be erected shall be approved of by the town council.

It is voted and resolved, that the petition of Mr. Job Sisson, representing that an estate on New Shoreham, belonging to him, hath been confiscated as the estate of Ackurs Sisson, an absentee, and praying that the same may be restored, be referred to James M. Varnum and William Channing, Esqs., and that they ascertain the facts set forth therein, and make report to this Assembly, at their next session.

Whereas, Mrs. Mary Franklin, of Jamestown, preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that her ferry boat, and negro man who managed the same, were, in the year 1775, taken into the service of this state, in order to remove the stock and forage from the said island; that her negro man boarded with William Slocum, who hath prosecuted her for the same, whereby she hath been put to upwards of forty silver dollars cost; and that she hath never received any compensation from the state for her boat or her servant, during the time they were employed; and thereupon she prayed this Assembly to make her such compensation as in justice is due to her; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that Gideon Mumford, Rouse J. Helme and Archibald Crary, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to inquire into the facts set forth in the said petition, and that they make report at the next session of this Assembly.

Whereas, this Assembly, at the session in June last, did order a tax of twenty thousand pounds, lawful money, which hath been assessed upon the inhabitants of this state; and that the sum of eight thousand six hundred pounds of the said tax was to be specially appropriated for the payment of the interest due on the loan office certificates, and other consolidated debts of the United States;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sum of ten thousand pounds of the said tax be paid into the general treasury in specie only, and the overplus sum of one thou-

sand four hundred pounds be appropriated towards discharging Col. Jeremiah Olney's order on the general treasurer, in favor of the officers and soldiers of this state's Continental battalion, for wages due unto them; and that the collectors of taxes within this state shall receive of the individuals who are to pay the same, one-half part of the whole sum assessed against them in orders upon the general treasurer, to be paid out of the said tax, if the same shall be offered to the said collectors in payment of his or her tax.

And it is further voted and resolved, that the secretary make out copies of this resolution, and deliver one to each of the deputies of the several towns of the state, to be by them delivered to the collectors of taxes as soon as may be.

Whereas, divers inhabitants of this state preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that Messrs. John Mawdfley and Stephen Deblois, merchants, resided in the town of Newport a number of years before the commencement of hostilities by the British troops; that they were well acquainted with the said John Mawdfley and Stephen Deblois; that their characters as merchants were irreproachable; that they remained in the town of Newport until the enemy evacuated the island, with a determination to continue, and convince their fellow citizens that no just reproach could be thrown upon them; but that through compulsion and necessity, they were obliged to go to New York; that they are extremely anxious to appear before this Assembly, to give every satisfaction of their attachment to this country that can be desired, and convince the world they have done nothing to the injury of the United States; and thereupon they prayed this Assembly to permit the said John Mawdfley and Stephen Deblois to return to Newport, and render this Assembly such accounts of their conduct as may be required, and if not found unworthy, that they may be

re-admitted unto the rights of citizenship ; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and hereby is, referred unto the next session ; that the first Thursday of the said session be assigned for the trial of the said petition ; and that the said John Mawdfley and Stephen Deblois be, and they are hereby, permitted to reside within this state until the said trial shall be had as aforesaid.

Whereas, the committee who were appointed to take an estimate of the ratable estates and polls in the town of Newport, have represented that the inhabitants of the said town, though duly notified, refused or neglected to bring the necessary lists to enable them to perfect the business of their appointment, and also at the same time informed this Assembly that the assessors of rates for the said town have estimated the ratable estates in the said town of Newport, to be of the value of two hundred and fifty-seven thousand two hundred pounds, lawful money, as appears by the last valuation of said town ; and the same being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that in all future assessments of taxes made by this Assembly, the ratable value of estates in the said town of Newport be considered and estimated at the rate aforesaid, and that the same be, and hereby is, established as the rule to ascertain the quota of the said town of Newport, in such assessment of taxes, until the further order of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to issue his warrant to the collectors of taxes in the towns of Charlestown and Little Compton, within ten days after the rising of this Assembly, for collecting the said towns' proportions of the late state tax of twenty thousand pounds, lawful money, the general treasurer not having received the rate-bills from the said towns within the time limited by law.

Whereas, William Richmond, Daniel Mowry, Jr., and Thomas Holden, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following report, to wit:

*Report of the Committee appointed by the General Assembly  
to ascertain the valuation of the towns of Portsmouth, Jamestown,  
New Shoreham and Middletown.*

Pursuant to our appointment, the subscribers have proceeded into the several towns within the state that were not before valued, notified the inhabitants, attended agreeably to the order of the General Assembly, and received the lists from all such of the said inhabitants as saw cause to exhibit them; from which we have made out a summary of the amount of the ratable property in each town, as stated in the rolls, which we herewith present, and submit to the candid judgment of the honorable the General Assembly.

WILLIAM RICHMOND,  
DANIEL MOWRY, JR.,  
THOMAS HOLDEN,

Committee.

October 29, 1783.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, accepted; that the valuation of the said towns, or the ratable estates and property thereof, be established agreeably to the said report, to wit: The town of Portsmouth, valued at one hundred and ten thousand two hundred and seven pounds, nine shillings; the town of Jamestown, valued at forty-five thousand five hundred and ninety-nine pounds, eighteen shillings; the town of New Shoreham, valued at thirty-three thousand four hundred and seventy-two pounds, two shillings; and the town of Middletown, valued at fifty-five thousand seven hundred and forty-seven pounds, sixteen shillings, lawful money; and that in all future assessments of taxes, the valuation of the said towns as before mentioned be considered as the rule to determine and ascertain their proportions or quotas of taxes in such assessments, until the further order of this Assembly.

Whereas, Mrs. Rebecca Freebody, of Newport, wife of Mr. John Freebody, preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that her said husband was an inhabitant of

the town of Newport, and at the time the British troops took possession of Rhode Island, was there; that during the time the British garrison kept possession of that place, he endeavored to support his family in such a manner as became a peaceable man, by bringing wood and other freight from Long Island; that previous to the evacuation of Rhode Island by the enemy, he had been for six weeks upon Long Island, in order to get a quantity of wood to the shore, for the use of his family, &c.; that when he found the enemy had evacuated Newport, he came in the first flag, in order to get admission into the state as a citizen thereof, but was not, for reasons unknown, admitted; and that his character in life, as a peaceable, industrious, honest man, is such that his being admitted a citizen will be an advantage to the state; and she therefore prayed this Assembly to admit him to come into this state, and reside here until the next session of this Assembly, when, if he can be heard, he can fully acquit himself of any inimical conduct, (if any such is alleged,) against this or any of the United States.

And Samuel Freebody and George Hazard Peckham, Esqs., having also represented that they were bound for the said John Freebody, for the faithful performance of his administration upon his father's estate; that the same is unsettled; and that, unless he can be permitted to come into this state to reside, they must be great sufferers; and therefore they prayed that the said John Freebody may have permission to come into this state as aforesaid; which being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted; that the said John Freebody be permitted to come within this state, in order to have a trial at the next session of this Assembly, on the merits of the application for his right of permanent residence within this state.

It is voted and resolved, that a further time be allowed

unto the collectors of taxes in the several towns, who are in arrear with the general treasurer, for deficiency of taxes, to the 25th of December next; that such town treasurers as are now committed to gaol be discharged until that time, when the sheriffs of the several counties are hereby empowered and directed to re-commit such of said town treasurers as may then still be in arrear.

And it is further voted and resolved, that where any process hath been issued against the collectors of taxes and their bondsmen, at the suit of the town treasurers, for deficiency of taxes, the sheriffs be, and hereby are, directed to stay all proceedings on such process, until the 25th day of December next.

It is voted and resolved, that Jonathan Russell, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed intendant of trade in and for the county of Bristol; and that Stephen Mumford, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed intendant of trade in and for the county of Kent.

Whereas, Mr. George Babcock, town treasurer of the town of South Kingstown, stands committed to gaol for the deficiency of several taxes of the said town; and whereas, this Assembly hath ordered the bonds given by the collectors of taxes to be put in suit by the attorney general;—

It is voted and resolved, that the said town treasurer be discharged from the said gaol upon the commitment of the general treasurer for deficiency of the state or Continental taxes.

I. is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins and John Foster, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a standing committee to examine and settle with the collectors of impost in the several counties, their accounts of monies received by them in their respective offices, and paid into the general treasury; and that the said accounts be settled once every three months.

An Act to incorporate certain persons by the name of the Six Principles Baptist Society, in the town of Newport, in this state.

[For charter at length, see printed Schedule.]

An Act for granting special powers to certain commissioners of the United States in certain cases, and to enable the United States to recover debts and effects belonging to the said United States.

An Act in addition to, and amendment of, an act entitled  
“An act for laying an impost duty.”

[For these acts in full, see printed Schedule.]

Whereas, a certain Samuel Knowles, formerly an inhabitant of the town of Richmond, in this state, in the year 1777 voluntarily and wickedly absented himself from this state, and joined the enemies of this and the United States, who actually invaded this state, and by his own confession was on board the fleet that burnt the houses in North Kingstown, and carried into captivity the citizens thereof, hath, without liberty from the authority of this state, returned ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the sheriff of the county of Washington forthwith cause the said Samuel Knowles to be put out of the territories of this state, and banished therefrom.

And it is further voted and resolved, that if the said Samuel Knowles shall come within the jurisdiction of this state without leave and permission first had and obtained, he shall suffer the pains of death without benefit of clergy; and that a copy of this resolution be delivered by the said sheriff to the said Samuel Knowles, that he may not pretend ignorance hereafter.

Upon the petition of John Cooke, Esq., preferred unto this Assembly, praying that a committee may be appointed

to inquire into the damages he sustained by the removal of his stock from the farm on Prudence, which he hired of this state,—

It is voted and resolved, that the said petition be again referred to John Jenckes, Esq., and Mr. Paul Allen, and that they make report at the next session of this Assembly.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz.:

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Jonathan Russell and Shearjashub Bourne, for services and expenses in taking estimate of damages done to the inhabitants of Bristol by the British troops during the war.....	4 12 0
Dr. Samuel Tenney, for settling accounts of this state's Continental battalion .....	6 7 6
Lieut. William Ellis, for depreciation of wages.....	17 15 10

God save the United States of America.

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*Proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at East Greenwich, on the fourth Monday in December, 1783.*

His Excellency William Greene, Governor.

The Hon. Jabez Bowen, Deputy Governor.

Whereas, His Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice of His Honor the Deputy Governor, and divers members of this Assembly, did prorogue this Assembly from the second to the fourth Monday of December inst., and did issue his proclamation for convening the said Assembly accordingly, being induced to adopt such a measure from the inconvenience of the Assembly's sitting in the same week

in which Congress had appointed a day of public thanksgiving ; and whereas, it appears to this Assembly that the prorogation thereof as aforesaid was intended to promote the convenience of the members of this Assembly, and the other inhabitants of this state ; and that such purposes have been effected thereby ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the conduct of His Excellency the Governor, in proroguing the Assembly as aforesaid, be, and the same is hereby, approved ; provided, nevertheless, and it is further voted and resolved, that the same shall not be considered of any force or validity as a precedent.

It is further voted and resolved, that all petitions and other business which were referred<sup>\*</sup> to the second Monday of this instant December, be now heard and determined in the same manner as though this Assembly had convened agreeably to its adjournment ; and that all persons concerned in the said petitions be considered and placed in the same situation as though this Assembly had not been prorogued.

It is voted and resolved, that Messrs. Thomas Wells, John Smith, Benjamin Howland, Stephen Steere, Joseph Noyes, Nathan Miller and Abraham Lippitt, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to take into consideration a petition preferred unto this Assembly by a committee of the people called Quakers, respecting the abolition of slavery ; and that they report, as soon as may be, such measures as will be expedient for this Assembly to adopt, relative to the subject matter thereof.

Whereas, it is represented unto this Assembly that unjust advantages are frequently taken of the Indians of the Narragansett tribe within this state, by inducing them to sign and execute notes, bonds and other instruments, for the payment of money or delivery of articles, whereby they are often involved in the payment of large debts which are not *bona fide* due ; to prevent which in future,—

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that in every action already brought, or which shall be brought after the rising of this Assembly, for any note, bond or other instrument, given or entered into by any of the said Indians, for the payment of money or delivery of articles, proof shall be made of full and just value having been paid for the same, before judgment shall be made up by any court of law in favor of the person or persons bringing such action; and for want of such proof, such action shall be dismissed with costs.

It is ordered, that this act be published in the Newport and Providence newspapers.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., John Brown and John Jenckes, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft an act to empower the general treasurer to issue certificates to the amount of one year's interest on loan office certificates to the several holders thereof, being inhabitants of this state; and to make such certificates for interest receivable in payment of that part of the last state tax of twenty thousand pounds which is appropriated for the paying of the interest on said loan office certificates.

An Act for the purpose of securing to authors the exclusive right and benefit of publishing their literary productions for twenty-one years.

Whereas, the improvement of knowledge, the progress of civilization, the public weal of the community, and the advancement of human happiness, greatly depend on the efforts of learned and ingenious persons, in the various arts and sciences; as the principal encouragement such persons can have to make great and beneficial exertions of this nature, must exist in the legal security of the fruits of their study and industry to themselves; and as such security is the natural right of all men, there being no property more peculiarly a man's own than that which is produced by the labor of his mind;—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that all books, treatises, and other literary productions, having the name of the author or authors thereof published and printed with the same, shall be the sole property of such author or authors, being citizens of the United States of America, their heirs and assigns, for the full and complete term of twenty-one years from the date of the publication.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if any person or persons shall print, re-print, publish, sell or expose to sale, or shall cause to be printed, reprinted, published, sold or exposed to sale, any book, treatise or other literary produc-

tion, not yet printed, written by any citizen or citizens of the United States of America, whose name or names, as author or authors, shall be thereto prefixed, without the consent of the author or authors, or their assigns, during the said term of twenty-one years, shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding three thousand pounds, lawful money, nor less than five pounds, to the use of such author or authors, or their assigns, to be recovered by action of debt, in any court of record proper to try the same.

Provided, nevertheless, and it is further enacted, that this act shall not be construed to extend to the favor or benefit of any author or authors, being a citizen or citizens of any other of the said United States, until the state whereof he or they are citizen or citizens shall pass similar laws, for securing to authors the exclusive right and benefit of publishing their literary productions.

Whereas, it appears to this Assembly that the committees in the towns of Smithfield, Scituate, Foster, North Kingstown, South Kingstown, Hopkinton, Exeter, Warwick, West Greenwich and Coventry, for assessing the classes in the said towns for raising recruits, pursuant to an act of this Assembly, passed at the session in November, A. D. 1780, have neglected to make returns of the names of the sheriffs, their deputies, or of the collectors who received the assessments on the several classes, agreeably to a resolve of this Assembly, passed at the session in February, A. D. 1782, and that therefore no executions have been issued by the general treasurer against such sheriffs, deputy sheriffs or collectors, pursuant to the said resolve ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that the said committees be, and they are hereby, required to make return of the names of the said sheriffs, deputy sheriffs and collectors, to the general treasurer, within fifty days after the rising of this Assembly ; that the general treasurer, at the expiration of the said fifty days, be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to issue his executions against the several sheriffs, their deputies and collectors, who received the assessments against such delinquent classes, for the several sums in which they may be respectively delinquent ; and that the said executions be returnable in thirty days.

It is voted and resolved, that Archibald Crary, Rouse J. Helme and James M. Varnum, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to draft an address to the Hon.

Major General Greene, on his return to this state, and that they lay the same before this Assembly.

Whereas, Anthony Johnson preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that for twenty years previous to the late revolution he was an inhabitant of this state ; that upon the British troops taking possession of the island of Rhode Island, having no other means to support himself and family but his daily labor, he remained upon the island ; that upon their evacuating the said island, he was under the necessity of accompanying them to New York, where he remained until the conclusion of the war, when he embraced an early opportunity to return to his family, and upon his arrival was arrested, confined in prison, and charged with having borne arms against the United States ; and thereupon prayed this Assembly that he may be indulged with the same privilege as has been granted to others, and that he may be liberated from gaol ; and the premises being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be, and the same is hereby, granted ; and that the said Anthony Johnson be liberated from his present confinement.

It is voted and resolved, that the draft of an act authorising the manumission of slaves, presented unto this Assembly by the committee appointed to consider the petition of a committee of the people called Quakers, be referred to the third day of the next session, for further consideration ; and that in the meantime the secretary cause the same to be published in the Newport and Providence newspapers.

Whereas, Archibald Crary, Rouse J. Helme and James M. Varnum, Esqs., presented unto this Assembly the following draft of an address to the Hon. Major General Greene, to wit :—

Sir :—The Governor and Company, in General Assembly convened, present to you their sincerest congratulations upon your happy return to this your native state, When they appointed you to the most honorable office in the service of your country, they anticipated the great events which have more than justified their expectations.

Your military conduct and achievements, so brilliant through the whole revolution, have excited an unabating affection in the breasts of all those who are friendly to the rights of mankind; the citizens of this state in particular will hold you dear, while the tribute of praise is rendered only to the claims of virtue. May the same Divine Beneficence which has secured to this state the blessings of peace and independence, continue to you every felicity that worthy actions, estimated by gratitude and affection, deserve.

We are, sir, with every sentiment of friendship and esteem, your very obedient and most humble servants.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be, and hereby is, approved; that the secretary cause a fair copy thereof to be made; and that His Excellency the Governor and His Honor the Speaker of the Lower House, be requested to present the same to the Hon. Major General Greene, in behalf of this Assembly.

To which address General Greene returned the following answer, to wit:

*To the Governor and Company, in General Assembly:—*

Gentlemen:—My bosom is warm with gratitude, from your kind and affectionate address. As it has ever been my pride to deserve your good opinion, so it is my highest gratification to meet your approbation. I feel myself wedded to the interest and happiness of this state, from the earliest attachments. It will give me the most pleasing satisfaction to promote its interest and welfare.

Permit me to return you my most respectful acknowledgments, for the honor you have done me, and for the interest you take in my present and future happiness.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen, with all possible respect,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANIEL GREENE.

#### An Act Consolidating Loan Office Certificates.

Whereas, the Most Honorable the Congress of the United States, in and by a certain resolution, passed the 4th day of September, A. D. 1782, did resolve, that one million two hundred thousand dollars be raised by the several states, and applied towards paying the interest due on certificates issued from the loan office, and other liquidated debts, in each state; of which sum twenty-eight thousand eight hundred dollars were, by the said resolution, recommended to be raised by this state, as the quota thereof;—

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, that the keeper of the Continental loan office in this state, for the time being, be, and he is hereby, directed and ordered to consolidate all the loan office certificates that were issued out of his office, that now are the property of the citizens of this state, by the Continental scale of depreciation, and certify the value of each certificate on the back of the same.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the keeper of the said loan office be, and he is hereby, directed to pay one year's interest on all loan office certificates issued from his office, and other liquidated debts of the United States contracted within this state, and the property of the citizens thereof; and that the said sum of twenty-eight thousand eight hundred dollars, and no more, of the state tax of twenty thousand pounds, now collecting, be applied to the payment of said interest.

And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if upon the application of any person who is entitled to demand interest in pursuance of this act, the said keeper shall not have received a sufficiency of the money granted as aforesaid for the payment thereof, the said keeper of the loan office be, and he is hereby, directed to issue a certificate or certificates for the same, which shall be received by the several collectors of taxes within this state in payment and satisfaction of so much of the said state tax; and that the following be the form of the certificate, to wit:

"This may certify that there is due to dollars, for one year's interest on Continental loan office certificates, and liquidated debts; and the possessor hereof is entitled to receive said sum out of the general treasury, or from either of the collectors of the state tax of twenty thousand pounds, now collecting and payable into the said treasury."

It is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the possessors of the Continental certificates, or the persons to whom the said liquidated debts are due as aforesaid, shall, before they are entitled to receive the said interest, take the following oath or affirmation before the said keeper of the loan office, or shall produce a certificate from one of the justices of the superior court of judicature, that he hath taken the said oath or affirmation before such justice, to wit:

" You, A. B., do swear (or affirm, as the case may be,) that you, on the 25th day of December, A. D. 1783, was possessed of the certificates whereon you demand interest; and that you was then, and now are, the owner thereof.—So help you God. On this affirmation you make, upon the peril of the penalty of perjury." And the general treasurer and town treasurers, who in their said capacities are possessed of said notes, shall take the same oath or affirmation, *mutatis mutandis*.

It is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the justice of the said court, who may administer the said oath or affirmation, shall certify the same, and the date of the certificate, and the sum for which the same was given, whereon interest is demanded as aforesaid; and that the secretary cause two printed copies of this act to be immediately sent to each town clerk in this state.

Whereas, the Hon. Major General Greene preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that he has never had the depreciation of his wages made up to him agreeably to the requisition of Congress; that, by reason of his great expenses in the course of the service, he feels himself embarrassed for want of an immediate supply; and therefore requested this Assembly to make him such an advance as they shall think proper; and the said petition being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that Esek Hopkins, Thomas Rumreill and Benjamin Bourne, Esqs., be, and they are

hereby, appointed a committee to adjust the accounts of the said General Greene, for the depreciation of his pay; that the said settlement be made on the same principles as the accounts of the officers of this state's Continental battalions have been adjusted, and that they make report as soon as may be.

It is voted and resolved, that the Hon. Major General Nathaniel Greene be, and he is hereby, empowered to receive from Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer, two hundred pounds, lawful money, out of the Continental taxes; that he account for the same in his account for depreciation; and that the aforesaid sum be replaced when the general treasury shall be in cash.

Whereas, there is a large pond (commonly called Worden's pond,) lying in South Kingstown, within the Petquamscutt purchase, which said pond, with the land it covers, were, at a legal meeting of the proprietors of the said purchase, held on the 30th day of October, A. D. 1783, conveyed to Col. John Waite, of said South Kingstown, if he would drain the same; and whereas, a number of respectable inhabitants of the county of Washington have preferred a petition to this Assembly, praying that the said John Waite may be permitted to drain the said pond, without being subject to an action for turning the course of the water, and that a committee may be appointed to appraise the damage which may be done in digging through any person's land for that purpose.

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is hereby enacted, that the said John Waite be, and he is hereby, fully empowered to drain the said pond, without being subject to an action at law for so doing; and that he turn such streams of water from their usual course, as the committee hereinafter named shall judge to be most beneficial to the public for effecting the same, and for enlarging the channel from Point Judith pond into the sea.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the vote of the meeting of the proprietors of the said Petquamscutt purchase be, and the same is hereby, ratified and confirmed; and that the fee of the land the said pond now covers be vested in the said John Waite, his heirs and assigns, forever.

Provided, nevertheless, and it is further enacted, that the course of the river called Ausquepough, running from Mumford's Mill, be not turned without the consent and approbation of all the proprietors of the land adjoining the said river, and the owners and proprietors of the mills thereon; that the said John Waite make good all damages, if any, that may accrue to the proprietors of the land adjoining the said river, and the proprietors of the mills thereon, by the drawing off the water from the said stream, to be estimated by the said committee; and that Carder Hazard and Joseph Hoxsie, Esqs., and Mr. Rowland Brown, be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee for the purposes aforesaid.

Whereas, Esek Hopkins, Esq., and Mr. Paul Allen, presented unto this Assembly the following account and report, to wit:—

*Account of Bouts, Scows, Oars, &c., which have been taken into the service of the United States, as appears by accounts and certificates to us rendered, to wit:—*

	Town of Providence.	£ s. d.
Joseph Bucklin, 3 scows.....	48 0 0	
Nathan Angel, 2 large boats, in General Sullivan's expedition.....	18 0 0	
“ “ 1 scow, in General Spencer's expedition.....	18 0 0	
Samuel Chace, Esq., 3 oars, 48 feet, at 6s. 8d.....	1 0 0	
George Corliss, 35 oars, in General Spencer's expedition, 5s.....	8 15 0	
Ambrose Page, 1 scow.....	16 0 0	
John Brown, 1 large boat belonging to the Marlborough,.....	£10 0 0	
“ “ 1 do. belonging to the ship Star and Garter .....	8 0 0	
“ “ 1 do. belonging to the ship Peggy.....	10 0 0	
“ “ 1 do. belonging to the ship Blaze Castle.....	10 0 0	
“ “ 2 scows, 1 five-cords and 1 six.....	36 0 0	
“ “ 1 boat belonging to ship Friendship.....	8 0 0	
		<hr/> 82 0 0

	£ s. d.
Ambrose Page & Co., 1 boat, 15 feet.....	8 0 0
Joseph and William Russell, 2 boats, one 15 and one 17 feet.....	14 0 0
Isaac Brown, 1 small boat.....	3 12 0
David Lawrence, 1 Moses boat.....	7 10 0

## North Providence.

Hope Angell, 1 scow.....	26 0 0
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## Warren.

Ichabod Cole & Co., 1 fish boat, with sails and oars, taken per order of General West.....	8 0 0
Amos Haile & Co., 1 fish boat, 4 oars, and 7 fathoms of warp.....	8 0 0
John Baker, 1 fish boat.....	6 10 0
Edward Carr, 1 Moses boat.....	6 16 0
Ichabod Cole, 1 fish boat, 2 masts, sails and oars.....	8 0 0

## Bristol.

Joseph Read, 1 Moses boat.....	5 10 0
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## Newport.

Robert Crooke, 1 fish boat.....	6 16 0
Andrew Freebody, 1 cedar boat, 18½ feet, with sails, masts and rigging...	13 5 0
"      "      1 whale boat.....	7 0 0
John Lawton, 1 cedar boat. ....	6 0 0

## Warwick.

Josiah Hains, 1 18-feet clench-worked boat.....	8 0 0
John Allen and T. Stafford, 1 scow, five-cords:....	16 0 0
Solomon Thorton, 1 20-feet Moses boat.....	10 0 0

## North Kingstown.

Aaron Vaughan, 1 large Moses boat.....	7 10 0
Ebenezer Sloeum, 1 small clench-worked Moses boat.....	6 5 0
Lodowick Updike, 1 small scow, almost new.....	14 0 0
Benjamin Fowler, 1 large Moses boat.....	7 0 0
Samuel Brenton, 1 boat.....	3 10 0

## Charlestown.

Joseph Stanton, Esq., 1 boat, 13-feet keel, almost new.....	6 0 0
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## Westerly.

Nathan Babcock, Jr., 1 boat, 16-feet keel.....	7 0 0
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## Tiverton.

Oliver Baley, 1 cedar boat and 4 oars.....	7 0 0
Gideon Almey, 2 boats, 18 feet each.....	£12 0 0
"      "      1 small boat.....	1 16 0

13 16 0

Thomas Butts, 1 cedar fish boat.....	7 0 0
Lemuel Crandall, 1 large Moses boat .....	7 0 0

## Little Compton.

Peleg Simmons, 1 cedar boat, 16-feet keel.....	7 0 0
Thomas Brown, 1 ditto.....	8 0 0
Nathaniel Church, 1 ditto, 15-feet keel.....	7 0 0

*£ s. d.*

William Richmond, 1 ditto, 12 feet.....	£4 0 0
" " 1 Moses boat.....	6 0 0
	— 10 0 0
Cornelius Briggs, 1 small cedar boat.....	4 15 0
East Greenwich.	
Thomas Aldrich, 3 whale boats, 2 at £8, 1 at £6 10s.....	22 10 0
William Tweedy, 1 Moses boat.....	6 0 0
Richard Mathewson & Co., 1 scow, lost at Warwick Neck.....	16 0 0
North Kingstown.	
John Gardner, 1 Moses boat.....	7 10 0
	—
	£535 10 0

In obedience to our appointment by the Honorable the General Assembly, we have carefully examined all the claims made by the several persons belonging to this state, who have had boats, scows, &c., taken from them on the several expeditions against Rhode Island, in the service of the United States, and do report that the sum of five hundred and thirty-five pounds, ten shillings, lawful money, is due to the several persons as mentioned in the foregoing account.

All which is submitted by your Honors' most humble servants,

ESEK HOPKINS,  
PAUL ALLEN.

And the said report being duly considered,—

It is voted and resolved, that the same be accepted; and that the general treasurer be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to give his promissory notes to the several individuals named therein, for the sums due to them and carried out against their respective names; and that the said notes be payable in three years from the date, and carry an interest of six per centum per annum.

Whereas, it appears that there are in the treasury of this state Continental loan office certificates to a large amount, the property of this state;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that Joseph Clarke, Esq., general treasurer, be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to appropriate so much of the money which shall be received into the general treasury in payment of the last state tax of twenty thousand pounds, as shall be equal to one year's interest on the said certificates, to the payment of the money due to the officers and soldiers of Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Olney's battalion, on orders of this As-

sembly which have not been satisfied ; and that the said Joseph Clarke, as keeper of the loan office in this state, be requested to endorse and discharge the said interest for one year on the said certificate.

Whereas, a variety of laws have been made and passed by the General Assembly, during the late war, that originated from the necessity of the times, and are not applicable in times of peace, which have not been amended or repealed ; and whereas, there are other laws, founded in the former principles of the government of this state while it was a colony, but which are now repugnant to the rights of the citizens as established by the revolution ; and whereas, it becomes necessary as well to define the distinct powers of the various branches of government, as to make provision in many cases wherein the laws are silent ;—

It is therefore voted and resolved, that a revision of the laws of this state be made as soon as may be ; that such alterations be made therein, and such additions be made thereto, as the circumstances of the state require ; and that Stephen Hopkins, James M. Varnum and Rouse J. Helme, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to make the said revision.

It is voted and resolved, that His Excellency the Governor be allowed the sum of two hundred dollars, in specie, for his salary for one year, commencing in May, A. D. 1782 ; that His Honor the Deputy Governor be allowed one hundred and fifty dollars, for his salary for the same year ; and that the said sums be paid them respectively out of the general treasury.

It is voted and resolved, that Mr. William Martin be, and he is hereby, appointed to keep the light-house on Beaver Tail ; that Messrs. John Brown, Francis Malbone and Archibald Crary be, and they are hereby, appointed a committee to agree with the said William Martin on the terms on which he shall keep the same ; and that the sheriff of the county of Newport be directed to see that the said light-

house be cleared for the said William Martin, and that possession thereof be delivered him when the said committee shall have agreed with him.

It is voted and resolved, that the following accounts be paid out of the general treasury, viz. :

*Bills Ordered to be Paid.*

	£ s. d.
Dr. Samuel Tenny, for settling accounts of state's battalion.....	6 17 6
Jonathan Russell and Shearjashub Bourne, for services in estimating damages done inhabitants of Bristol by the British troops.....	4 12 0
Benjamin Bates, for the passage of eight disabled soldiers of the state's battalion, from Albany to Providence.....	9 0 0
Dr. William Tillinghast, for attendance on sick soldiers stationed on Rhode Island.....	8 4 9
William Ellery, a delegate in Congress, for services.....	120 0 0
David Howell,        "        "        "        " .....	120 0 0
John Collins,        "        "        "        " balance .....	73 4 0
Jonathan Arnold,    "        "        "        " .....	204 0 0

It is voted and resolved, that all business lying before this Assembly unfinished, be, and the same is hereby, referred unto the next session; that the secretary publish the acts and orders now made and passed by beat of drum, in the town of Providence, within ten days from the rising of this Assembly, and within thirty, send copies thereof to the several sheriffs in the state, by them to be transmitted to the town clerks in their respective counties; and that this Assembly be, and the same is hereby, adjourned to the last Monday in February next, then to convene at Providence.

God save the United States of America.

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